MADRAS IN 1945

(OUTLINE OF THE ADMINISTRATION)

PART I

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT
GOVERNMENT PRESS
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PREFATORY NOTE

"Madras in 1945" is a general summary of the salient features of the administration during the calendar year 1945. The Madras Administration Report, 1944–45, which is being published simultaneously contains detailed information on the work of the various departments in the official year 1944–45. They correspond to Parts I and II respectively of the Presidency Administration Report published up to 1939. The year 1945 will be remembered as the year of Victory ushering a new era of reconstruction, progress and prosperity. An attempt has, therefore, been made to compare the position in some of the important aspects of administration with that prevailing in pre-war years. During the year a large number of post-war schemes and projects for the resettlement of demobilized service personnel and for the general development of the country were approved by the Government. In the brief compass of this booklet only an outline of the work of each department can be attempted.

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Sir S. V. Ramamurty, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.—
Development Department.
Public Works Department—Irrigation.

Mr. E. M. Gawne, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.—
Revenue Department *excluding* Excise, Registration, Commercial Taxes and Taxes on Agricultural Income.
Home Department.
Public Works Department—Industrial and Labour disputes, Labour and Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department, and Factories and Trade Unions.
Public Department—Fire Services.

NOTE.—"Irrigation" does not include "Hydro-electricity".

The Legislature

There have been no meetings of the Chambers of Legislatures since 30th October 1939, when the Congress Ministry resigned and His Excellency the Governor assumed all executive and legislative powers by a proclamation under Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935. His Excellency the Governor of Madras dissolved the Madras Legislative Assembly with effect from 1st October 1945. Between the period from 1st January to 30th September 1945, four vacancies arose in the Assembly—2 by death and 2 due to vacation of office as members consequent on their election to the Central Assembly. During the year 5 vacancies arose in the Council—3 by death, 1 due to resignation and 1 due to vacation of office as member consequent on his election to the Central Assembly.

The term of office of the members of the Madras Legislative Council which would in the normal course have expired on the 31st of March 1943, 1946 and 1949 was extended up to the 31st March 1946, 1949 and 1952, respectively and all vacancies existing on or arising after 15th November 1945 in the Legislative Council which should be filled by nomination were ordered to be kept unfilled until the end of March 1946.

Legislation

Twenty-one Acts and two Regulations were made by His Excellency the Governor in exercise of the legislative powers assumed by him.

The Madras City Civil Court and Presidency Small Cause Courts (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Acts so as to provide that in suits or other proceedings instituted in the High Court which in the opinion of the trying judge ought to have been instituted in the City Civil Court or the Court of Small Causes, the successful defendant should be allowed costs at the maximum admissible under the Madras High Court Fees Rules for suits set down for final disposal.

The Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the main Act to declare that where a grant as an inam is expressed to be of a named village, the area which formed the subject-matter of the grant shall be deemed to be an estate although it did not include certain lands in the village of that name which were already granted on service or other tenure or reserved for communal purposes. Provision was also made to give inamdars affected by the Act an opportunity to file applications before a Special Tribunal within one year from the commencement of the Act to establish their rights to kudivaram.

The Madras Irrigation Cess (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the main Act to make it clear that the water-cess levied under the Act is not a tax on land, but a fee levied for the water supplied or used for the irrigation of land.

The Madras Irrigation Works (Repairs, Improvement and Construction) Amendment Act, 1945, amends the main Act—

(i) to make the landholder liable only for so much of the cost of the irrigation work constructed by the Government on his lands as is proportionate to the extent of the land in his estate served by the work and to limit his liability to an amount which would yield a net return of 4 per cent.

(ii) to provide that the cost of maintenance of such irrigation works shall be shared between the landholder and the Government in the same proportion as the cost of construction has been shared between them, and

(iii) to make provision for cases where an irrigation work is intended to serve two or more estates or land situated partly in two or more estates and partly in ryotwari tracts.

The Madras Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the main Act so as to increase by fifty per cent the rates of entertainment tax leviable on payments exceeding two annas for admission to any entertainment.

The Malabar Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act so as to provide that for the duration of the war and for such period thereafter as the Government may direct, paddy, coconuts, arecanuts and pepper, payable as rent or michavaram, should be valued at the prices specified in the list of market prices last published by the Collector before the date of payment and that the Collector should publish every month in the District Gazette a list of current market prices of these commodities at each taluk headquarters.

The Madras General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1945, restores the exemption from the tax in respect of bullion and specie, which was provided for in the principal Act as it originally stood.

The Madras Electricity Duty (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act to provide for the imposition of a duty on energy

consumed by a licensee for purposes other than those connected with the construction, maintenance and operation of the electrical undertaking. The levy is, however, limited to the energy consumed which, if sold to a private consumer under like conditions, would have paid a price of more than two annas per unit.

The Madras General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Act, 1945, amends section 3 (1) (*a*) of the principal Act so as to substitute annual rates of tax for the monthly rates specified in that section.

The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1945, raises, with effect from the 1st July 1945, the rate of land cess from one and a half to two annas per rupee of the annual rental value of all occupied land and gives the additional revenue entirely to district boards.

The Madras Medical Registration (Amendment) Act, 1945, empowers the Government, during the continuance of the war and a period of six months thereafter, to extend the term of office of the members of the Madras Medical Council.

The Madras Prevention of Couching Act, 1945, penalises the performance of the operation of "couching" by unqualified persons.

The Madras Prevention of Begging Act, 1945, provides for the prevention of begging in the mufassal. The Act sanctions the committal to a work-house, when one is established in any area in which it is in force, for a period of three years of able-bodied beggars aged 16 and above and for a similar period of detention in a special home, when one is established, of all crippled beggars aged 16 and above. The Act also provides that able-bodied beggars can be released on an undertaking not to beg. All beggars under 16 years of age will ordinarily be dealt with by juvenile courts under the Madras Children's Act, 1920 and those between the ages of 14 and 16 can be sent to a work-house or a special home, when these are established, according to their physical fitness.

The Madras Estates Land (Second Amendment) Act, 1945, empowers the Collector to execute, on the application of the party concerned, the orders passed by a special Tribunal constituted under section 185-A (2) of the principal Act.

The Madras Electricity (Validation of Levy of Surcharges) Act, 1945, removes doubts raised in respect of certain orders of the Government under rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules directing the levy of surcharge by certain electrical undertakings on the price of electrical energy supplied by them and validates such surcharges.

The Madras City Improvement Trust Act, 1945, provides for the constitution of a Board of Trustees for the improvement of the City of Madras and its neighbourhood. It will be the duty of the Board to make due provision for the improvement and expansion

of the City by opening up congested areas, laying out or altering streets and framing and executing various improvement schemes. The Board will have no power to levy taxes. Its funds will consist of miscellaneous items of revenue such as betterment contribution, income from investment on lands and contributions from the Government and the Corporation who will each make an annual payment of not less than 2½ lakhs of rupees. The Board will also have power to borrow money either from the Government or with the sanction of the Government in the open market.

The Court-fees (Madras Amendment) Act, 1945, makes an amendment to Article 18 of Schedule II to the Court Fees Act, 1870 (as amended by Madras Act V of 1922).

The Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1945, provides for the levy of a duty on sales, gifts and mortgages with possession of immovable property situated in the City of Madras, at such rate as may be fixed by the Government not exceeding 5 per cent of the amount of the consideration, the value of the property or the amount secured by the mortgage.

The Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 1945, gives effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Labour that in the case of plantations, the manager should be required to maintain registers of births and deaths. It enables the Collectors to appoint managers of plantations or their nominees as Registrars and imposes a penalty not exceeding twenty-five rupees on any person who having been appointed a Registrar neglects to perform his duties.

The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act so as to authorize the levy of a surcharge on the stamp duty payable under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, in respect of the instruments of sale, gift, and mortgage with possession, of immovable property situated in the areas under the jurisdiction of municipal councils and local boards. The maximum rate of the surcharge is fixed at 5 per cent on the amount of the consideration, the value of the property, or the amount secured by the mortgage as specified in the instrument, but the actual rate will be fixed by the Government.

The Madras Commercial Crops Markets (Amendment) Act, 1945, was passed to remedy certain defects found in the working of the principal Act. The Act provides that where a market committee is established for any notified commercial crop, no licence will be granted or renewed to a person in respect of any place for the purchase and sale of such crop, if it is situated within a prescribed distance of the market. It also takes away the representation on a market committee given to the local body or bodies having jurisdiction over a notified area. The Act transfers the power of sanctioning by-laws made by a market committee from the Collector to the Director of Agriculture.

The Madras Civil Courts (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act so as to empower the High Court to receive appeals when the District Court or the Subordinate Judge's Court, in which they have to be filed ordinarily, is closed during vacation.

The Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act so as to empower the Government to require any municipal council to sanction one or more posts of Assistant Municipal Electrical Engineer.

The Malabar Tenancy (Second Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act so as to make it clear that the eviction of a tenant under clause (5) of sections 14 and 20 should be allowed only if the landlord needs the holding to raise crops or other produce for his own maintenance or for that of any member of his family, tarwad or tavazhi having a proprietary interest in the holding. An amendment has also been made to clause (6) of sections 14 and 20 to the effect that the eviction of a tenant should be allowed only if the landlord needs the holding for purposes of constructing a building for his own use or for that of any member of his family, tarwad or tavazhi having a proprietary interest in the holding.

The Criminal Tribes (Madras Amendment) Act, 1945, amends the principal Act so as to empower the Superintendent of Police also, subject to the control of the District Magistrate, to hold in abeyance a direction of the Government under section 10 (1) (*a*).

The Madras Pawnbrokers (Amendment) Act, 1945, restricts the scope of section 2 (5) (ii) of the principal Act to advances made by regular banking companies.

In addition to the above Acts, the following Regulations were made :—

The Amindivi Islands Court Fees (Amendment) Regulation, 1945, amends the main Regulation so as to provide for the levy of a court-fee on a copy or translation of a judgment or order or a copy of a decree filed in the court.

The Madras (Partially Excluded Areas) Compulsory Vaccination Regulation, 1945, makes provision for the enforcement of vaccination in certain partially excluded areas in the Province of Madras.

The general trend of legislation was what may be described as emergent or non-controversial. In the peculiar circumstances created by the war and political situation, no legislation was undertaken, where it was felt that it could, with advantage, be left over for deliberations by the Legislature.

The Services

Madras Public Service Commission

Direct recruitment was made by the Commission to 31 classes of posts. In October 1945 the Commission held a competitive

examination for the recruitment of clerks, typists, etc., to the Madras Ministerial Service, the Madras Judicial Subordinate Service and the Madras Secretariat Service. There were 2,442 qualified candidates for the examination against an estimated number of 2,379 vacancies expected in 1946. The examination was, for the first time, thrown open also to unpassed men already in service who wished to qualify themselves for transfer, promotion, etc., to posts for which the minimum general educational qualification was prescribed and 444 unpassed men were accordingly admitted to the examination.

Recruitment of War Service Candidates

Over 12,000 vacancies in Government service have been reserved for war service candidates. These include posts of all kinds, from those of peons and clerks to those of officers in the various departments of Government and have been apportioned among the districts on the basis of recruitment figures.

Cost of Public Services

The following statement shows at a glance the strength and the cost of the several services, the number of pensioners and the pensionary liabilities of this Government in 1944–45 :—

	Salaries.		Pensions.	
	Total number of posts in 1944–45.	Cost in 1944–45. RS. IN LAKHS.	Total number of pensioners in 1944–45.	Cost in 1944–45. RS. IN LAKHS.
Indian Civil Service ..	125	29·49	92	25·78 (for both rows)
Other All-India Services and High Court Judges (excluding I.C.S. Judges)	172	26·39	216	
Government contribution payable under the I.C.S. Family Pension Rules.	..	..	..	·18
Miscellaneous charges connected with pension of All-India Services ..	..	..	..	·99
Contribution payable to the Central Revenues under Section 156 of the Government of India Act, 1935 towards pension, etc., of Military officers in respect of Civil employment ..	..	..	58	2·12
Provincial Services ..	2,199	107·25	995	106·51 (for both rows)
Subordinate Ministerial and Inferior Services (excluding Village establishment) ..	1,44,663	565·19	27,112	
Village establishment ..	1,07,776	123·24	..	..
Total ..	2,54,935	851·56	28,473	135·58
Total Salaries and Pensions		987·14 lakhs		

CHAPTER II—FINANCE

Years of Progress

	1924–25. RS. IN LAKHS.	1944–45. RS. IN LAKHS.
Total Provincial Revenue	16,26·21	41,25·16
Total Expenditure	13,00·73	41,24·24
Education	1,71·25	3,66·16
Medical and Public Health ..	81·77	1,94·56
Agriculture, Veterinary and Co-operation	26·88	90·24

Statement of Revenue and Receipts of the Government of Madras (excluding Railway figures)

Heads of Account.	1943–44. RS.	1944–45. RS.
Revenue Heads—		
Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax	2,92,50,000	3,98,40,000
Land Revenue	5,07,74,366	5,49,18,235
Provincial Excise	7,19,50,548	12,77,88,556
Stamps	2,83,73,777	3,21,98,202
Forest	1,16,22,566	1,43,47,472
Registration	75,15,857	66,16,404
Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts	63,50,949	77,61,383
Other Taxes and Duties	3,22,68,766	6,35,01,710
Irrigation, Navigation, etc., works for which Capital Accounts are kept	1,40,33,314	1,30,30,216
Irrigation, Navigation, etc., works for which no Capital Accounts are kept	1,10,97,244	1,12,36,516
Interest	24,59,769	51,36,407
Administration of Justice ..	51,01,536	45,72,319
Jails and Convict Settlements ..	11,23,635	14,86,256
Police	10,29,961	20,73,946
Education	10,83,939	12,22,634
Medical	12,73,094	15,77,524
Public Health	4,47,742	4,37,502
Agriculture	11,86,604	12,09,241
Veterinary	1,48,797	3,11,394
Co-operation	3,13,352	5,12,645
Industries	44,32,983	67,93,046
Aviation	7,015	..
Miscellaneous Departments ..	9,94,711	10,55,059
Civil Works	45,12,939	22,56,629
Receipts from Electricity Schemes	50,46,887	49,04,500
Receipts in Aid of Superannuation	3,48,958	3,76,105
Stationery and Printing	5,07,713	7,75,108
Miscellaneous	33,66,535	37,37,691
Miscellaneous Adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments	12,063	17,748
Extraordinary Receipts	1,092	15,819
Civil Defence	17,83,470	28,05,346
Total, Revenue Heads	29,84,20,182	41,25,15,614

Statement of Expenditure of the Government of Madras (excluding Railway figures)

Heads of Account.	1943–44.	1944–45.
	RS.	RS.
Expenditure on Revenue Account—		
Land Revenue	23,45,234	25,76,943
Provincial Excise	36,07,491	46,06,866
Stamps	9,63,871	11,66,164
Forest	80,26,791	81,99,078
Registration	32,67,899	34,75,522
Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Acts	45,66,654	62,00,589
Other Taxes and Duties	16,61,268	18,27,346
Interest on works for which Capital Accounts are kept ..	88,37,275	88,76,989
Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	58,98,601	87,62,914
Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	2,14,672	3,43,765
Interest on Debt and other obligations	— 58,21,459	— 62,43,039
Appropriation for reduction or Avoidance of Debt	41,41,611	49,25,834
General Administration	3,00,51,535	3,14,47,467
Administration of Justice ..	1,05,19,803	1,13,76,288
Jails and Convict Settlements ..	64,15,544	62,11,035
Police	2,25,30,566	2,50,27,498
Ports and Pilotage	..	29,640
Scientific Departments ..	1,07,448	1,04,789
Education	3,18,70,930	3,66,15,614
Medical	1,30,10,333	1,52,61,621
Public Health	28,69,084	41,94,338
Agriculture	38,28,769	48,11,388
Veterinary	15,69,756	20,08,495
Co-operation	17,53,674	22,04,340
Industries	47,54,724	65,14,388
Aviation	..	..
Capital outlay on Civil Aviation ..	..	
Miscellaneous Departments ..	29,60,094	40,15,064
Civil Works	1,46,69,689	1,53,65,796
Interest on Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes	32,68,853	33,85,773
Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes.	1,02,855	1,48,422
Famine	1,92,03,431	3,53,339
Superannuation allowances and pensions	1,22,93,714	1,30,59,557
Stationery and Printing	39,58,351	29,30,180
Commutation of Pensions financed from ordinary Revenues ..	2,91,363	2,27,938
Miscellaneous	82,42,304	82,12,810
Extraordinary charges	3,62,59,215	3,01,01,017
Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund.	71,00,000	12,39,00,000
Civil Defence	2,30,71,813	2,01,97,746
Total, Expenditure on Revenue Account	29,84,13,756	41,24,23,512

Accounts, 1944-45

Revenue

The outstanding feature of the year 1944–45 was a large increase of Rs. 11,40·95 lakhs in revenue as compared with the previous year. The total revenue realized amounted to Rs. 41,25·16 lakhs

against the Budget Estimate of Rs. 30,20·74 lakhs. There were increased receipts under all the principal heads of revenue except "Land Revenue" (after deducting the portion due to irrigation) and Registration. The largest contribution to this expansion in revenue was under Provincial Excise (Rs. 5,40·32 lakhs) due to greater business activity, extensive employment of labour on war works, presence of a large number of troops, keen competition among bidders for shops, and enhancement in the rates of tree tax and of duty on arrack. The increase under "Other taxes and Duties" (Rs. 2,07·81 lakhs) is enormous, which can be seen from the fact that it yielded about Rs. 82,113 in 1936–37 and within ten years the receipts have risen to Rs. 6,35·02 lakhs. The increase during the year under this head was mainly under General Sales Tax owing to the greater turnover of assessees arising from high prices, the enhancement of the rates for flat rate assessees and of the licence fees for dealers in cotton, cotton-yarn, skins and hides and for commission agents and due to the withdrawal of the exemption for sales of bullion. Other Commercial Taxes (viz., receipts under the Madras Sales of Motor Spirits Taxation Act, 1939, Entertainment Tax and Betting Tax) also yielded increased revenue. Large increases occurred also under Taxes on Income (Rs. 1,28·40 lakhs), Forest (Rs. 48·48 lakhs), Stamps (Rs. 22·11 lakhs) and Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts (Rs. 20·28 lakhs). Central Government's Receipts under Taxes on income rose and consequently the amount assigned as a share of this Province was correspondingly greater. Better prices for sandalwood, timber and other produce, large supplies of timber to the Defence Department, enhanced rates of stamp duties in force from October 1943, heavier business transactions and increase in the number of motor vehicles paying tax as a result of the improved shipping position and the import of lease-lend vehicles accounted for the improvement under the other heads mentioned above.

Expenditure

The most noteworthy feature of the expenditure was the transfer of Rs. 1,239 lakhs to the "Revenue Reserve Fund" representing a transfer of the surplus in the Revenue Account to this special fund intended for use in financing Post-war Development Schemes. The total expenditure on the Revenue Account was Rs. 41,24·24 lakhs which exceeded the Budget figure by Rs. 11,04·27 lakhs. The greatest rise occurred under Extraordinary Charges (Rs. 2,67·83 lakhs) representing chiefly the net capital outlay on State Trading Schemes transferred to the Revenue Account. There was an increase of Rs. 26·68 lakhs under "Irrigation—Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenues", due to larger expenditure on works connected with the "Grow More Food" Campaign, on protective works against

floods in and around Madras City and other flood repair works. Other notable increases were under "Civil Defence" (Rs. 19·64 lakhs), "Medical" (Rs. 19·99 lakhs), "Police" 25·79 lakhs) and "Forest" (Rs. 16·47 lakhs).

Budgetary Position

The budget estimate for the year showed a surplus of Rs. 0·77 lakh against Rs. 10·05 lakhs in the previous year. The year, however, closed with an actual surplus of Rs. 0·92 lakh, after meeting from Current Revenues a heavy net outlay to the extent of Rs. 2,67·83 lakhs on the State Trading Schemes and also Rs. 685 lakhs by way of contribution to the Revenue Reserve Fund in excess of what was contemplated in the budget.

Capital Expenditure

The Government incurred capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account to the extent of Rs. 41·05 lakhs in 1944–45 mainly on irrigation and electricity schemes and on cinchona plantations. A sum of Rs. 80·64 lakhs was disbursed as loans to local bodies, agriculturists, etc., and a sum of Rs. 16 lakhs by way of short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank.

Budget, 1945–46

The budget for 1945–46 anticipates a surplus of Rs. 10,80·15 lakhs over the expenditure. Of the surplus, Rs. 1,000 lakhs was shown as transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund. The budget provides for various special activities necessitated by the war and also for certain special items of expenditure, e.g., special grants to local bodies to assist them in paying dearness allowance to their staff at Government rates when they are unable to meet the full cost otherwise, special grants to management of aided elementary schools to cover dearness allowance to their teachers at Rs. 8 per month and a contribution of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Rural Water Supply Fund.

New Schemes of Expenditure

The Government made a much larger provision for new schemes of expenditure in 1945–46 than they had done in previous years during the war, as they considered that a part of the revenue surplus of the province should be spent on urgent new schemes for the benefit of the general public. The net estimated expenditure in 1945–46 on new schemes for which provision was made, was Rs. 2,10·57 lakhs. The more important of these new schemes included (1) contributions to local bodies as additional compensation for loss of revenue from tolls and profession tax, grants to

local bodies towards the extra cost of maintenance of trunk and important marketing roads due to the rise in prices, and grants to local bodies for village communications and for special repairs to roads and bridges; (2) irrigation works in the Kistna Delta System and Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts; (3) new schemes in the Education Department for introducing free compulsory elementary education and provision of free midday meals for poor pupils in elementary schools in selected areas in each district; opening additional secondary schools for girls; opening a free boys' hostel at Vellore for sons of the members of Armed Forces; employing additional teachers in panchayat schools; providing special educational facilities for the Marawars, a backward community in Tinnevelly district; opening new classes for training teachers; paying additional contributions to the elementary education funds of certain local bodies to make the Government contributions equal in each case to the proceeds of the education tax at the average rate for the Presidency, and giving building and equipment grants to non-Government colleges and schools; (4) taking over by the Goverment of five local fund medical institutions; building a hospital for women and children at Vaniyambadi and conduct of an experiment in controlling leprosy through voluntary segregation of lepers in certain villages of Chingleput district; (5) grants to the Guntur District Board for buildings for certain maternity and child-welfare centres and to the Corporation of Madras for underground and storm-water drainage works in Perambur and Vyasarpadi; (6) extension of courses for the Agricultural education of farmers; the construction of permanent quarters for the staff of the Rice Research Station, Tirukuppam, and of an inspection bungalow for the use of touring officers visiting the Research Station; (7) opening six veterinary dispensaries in Coimbatore, Madura and West Godavari districts; training subordinate staff in livestock development work under village conditions and taking over a Veterinary dispensary in Madura district from the Zamindari of Kannivadi; (8) grants-in-aid to industrial schools; manufacture of semi-dried prawns from prawns obtained from Collair and Pulicat lakes, and opening a new fisheries school and a fish-curing yard at Kootapalli; (9) construction of drinking water wells; acquisition of house-sites and provision of additional educational facilities for the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department and extension of the provision of free midday meals for pupils of all schools under the Labour Department.

Capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account, 1945–46, *and Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government*.—The amount required for capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account in 1945–46 was estimated at Rs. 1,75·62 lakhs, of which Rs. 1,72·22 lakhs represented remunerative expenditure. A sum of Rs. 86·70 lakhs was provided for loans to local bodies, agriculturists,

co-operative societies, etc., and for short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank. Owing to the restrictions on the use of steel, iron, etc., the amount provided for new loans to local bodies was smaller than usual.

Loans, 1945

As in the previous year, the Government anticipated that they could provide for all the ordinary transactions of the year 1945–46 from the opening balance and current revenues thus eliminating any need to raise a loan in the open market. A special loan of Rs. 300 lakhs was, however, raised in the open market in September 1945 to provide for capital outlay on the remunerative schemes and for re-lending to local bodies, agriculturists, etc., so that the Government might retain larger resources in hand for use on post-war development in due course.

Three months' treasury bills of the nominal value of Rs. 100 lakhs issued in November 1944 and outstanding at the end of December 1944 were repaid in February 1945. The Government issued three months' treasury bills of the nominal value of Rs. 50 lakhs in July 1945 and for the same amount also in October 1945. The average rates of discount were respectively Re. 0-4-8 and Re. 0-6-0 per cent per annum. The treasury bills issued in July 1945 were repaid in October 1945, and the treasury bills issued in October 1945 will be repaid in January 1946.

CHAPTER III—THE SEASON

Years of Progress

	1914-15.	1924-25.	1934-35.	1944-45.
	ACRES IN MILLIONS.	ACRES IN MILLIONS.	ACRES IN MILLIONS.	ACRES IN MILLIONS.
Area of ryotwari holdings ..	25·34	26·44	27·88	27·66
Area under cultivation in ryotwari holdings ..	21·46	19·28	20·83	20·59
	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.
Assessment on holdings ..	512·64	557·60	597·08	603·79

Rainfall and Crops

The rainfall during the south-west monsoon was generally below the normal. The area cultivated from April to September 1945 was greater than the normal and that of last year in the case of dry crops and less in the case of wet crops. The condition of standing crops was generally fair, except in parts of Circars and Deccan. In the Circars, the crops were damaged by a cyclone and in the Deccan they withered for want of sufficient rain. The north-east monsoon failed almost completely and the prospects of the late crops were generally not hopeful.

Famine

In the latter part of 1945 seasonal conditions deteriorated in Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Coimbatore districts. In December 1945 proposals for the relief of unemployed in Bellary and Anantapur districts by way of District Board expansion works and minor irrigation works were approved by the Government. A special grant of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned by the Government to each of the districts of Bellary and Anantapur for the deepening of some of the wells in the towns of Rayadrug and Kalyandrug. Subsequently, a total sum of Rs. 51,800 was sanctioned for the Anantapur district for the same purpose. In Bellary district, five fodder depots were started and the Government sanctioned an allotment of Rs. 10,000 for expenditure in connection with the supply of fodder. An allotment of Rs. 3,000 was given for the opening of four similar fodder depots in Anantapur district.

Land Revenue Concessions

With the rise in price of agricultural produce, the economic condition of the agriculturist has improved. In view of this, the Government withdrew in fasli 1353 the general concessions of land revenue granted in the previous faslis. But special dry remission for loss of crops due to adverse seasonal conditions was granted in 49 villages of the Anantapur district.

Cyclone

A severe cyclone ravaged parts of Guntur, Kistna, West Godavari, East Godavari and Vizagapatam districts in October 1945. Vizagapatam escaped with little damage, but there was fairly widespread damage both from a tidal wave and very heavy winds to huts, houses, trees and paddy and other crops in all the other districts and more particularly in the two Godavari districts. There was some loss of human life and of cattle and sheep. The Government sanctioned an immediate grant of Rs. 5,000 for urgent relief measures in each of the five districts. Subsequently, the grant was increased to Rs. 50,000 each for the districts of East and West Godavari and to Rs. 52,000 for Kistna district. Special staff was appointed to afford both urgent and long-term relief for the distressed. Relief was granted or will be granted to the persons affected in the following ways :—

(*a*) Cash grant to the deserving poor and supply of building materials for the repair of damaged houses ;

(*b*) grant of remission on a liberal scale both of land revenue and of tree tax due to the Excise Department ;

(*c*) supply of seed required for raising another crop and water for raising a second crop on fields which lost their crops ;

(*d*) liberal grant of loans to enable the ryots to purchase seeds, manure, cattle, etc. ; and

(*e*) special grants for the distribution of manure and seeds for agricultural production in the affected districts through the Agricultural depots.

CHAPTER IV—REVENUE AND EXCISE

Years of Progress

	1914-15.	1924-25.	1934-35.	1944-45.
	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.
Land Revenue	747	811	886	549
Provincial Excise Revenue..	183	488	423	1,279

	1936-37.	1937-38.	1940-41.	1943-44.	1944-45.
	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.
Commercial Taxes Revenue ..	0·83	2·87	130·02	322·69	635·01

Land Revenue

The percentage of the total amount collected, written off and suspended to the demand was 99·4 at the end of fasli 1354. In the districts of Tanjore and South Kanara, special establishments were entertained as usual for collection work. The Chicacole taluk in Vizagapatam district was bifurcated into two taluks, viz., Narasannapeta and Chicacole. A sub-treasury was opened at Narasannapeta. A temporary sub-treasury was opened at Virudunagar in Ramnad district. The old Vedasandur sub-taluk in Madura district which was abolished as a measure of retrenchment in 1932 was restored.

The three Commercial Taxation Acts were administered satisfactorily. The rate of General Sales Tax continued to be 1 per cent in the case of turnovers exceeding Rs. 20,000 and for lesser turnovers there was no change in the slab rates. The exemption of dealers of bullion and specie under the General Sales Tax Act was restored. For the six months, April to September 1945 the demands under Entertainment, Motor Spirit and General Sales Tax Acts were about Rs. 23 lakhs, Rs. 31 lakhs and Rs. 277 lakhs respectively.

Excise

The latest figures available show that consumption of arrack, opium, Indian-made foreign spirits and Indian beer increased and also more trees were tapped for toddy. Due to the difficulty of getting opium from Ghazipur its supply to shops was curtailed. The system of rationing of arrack introduced in 1943 continued but with an increased quota. The stock position of ganja improved and so the restrictions on supplies to shops were removed.

There was no change in the rates of duty on arrack, beer brewed in India and coconut toddy arrack. The rates of duty on ganja, bhang, Indian-made foreign and rectified spirits and the issue

price of opium and the rates of tree-tax were enhanced for the lease 1945–46. The excise duty on wines and medicated wines produced in British India was raised from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per gallon. Compared with the pre-war year 1937–38, the duty on arrack was from 25 to 73 per cent higher varying in different parts of the Province, that on ganja and bhang 100 per cent higher and the tree-tax 60 per cent more. The total excise revenue collected during the first nine months of the year was Rs. 1,147 lakhs as against Rs. 751 lakhs and Rs. 307 lakhs collected during the same periods last year and in the pre-war year 1937 respectively. The increase is accounted for by the fact that under war conditions earning capacity increased considerably, and there was more money available with the drinking classes.

All excise shops except those for the sale of arrack were opened in 1944 in the four prohibition districts of Salem, Chittoor, Cuddapah and North Arcot. From 1st October 1945 the arrack shops were also opened.

CHAPTER V—LAW AND ORDER

Interesting Statistics

	1914–15.	1924–25.	1934–35.	1944–45.
Total cognizable crime (number of cases)	53,178	53,255	42,122	58,591
Original cases instituted in Criminal Courts	344,832	350,209	462,304	556,921
Total suits instituted in Civil Courts	488,979	559,665	578,170	239,321
Total value of suits in crores of rupees	7·80	8·12	9·35	8·29
Daily average number of prisoners	11,327	20,960	14,959	21,012
	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.
Cost of Police	109·5	196·3	165·7	250·28
Cost of Administration of Justice.	82·6	96·0	96·5	113·76
Cost of Jails	15·4	29·4	21·7	62·11
Total cost on "Law and Order".	207·5	321·7	283·9	426·15
Cost per head of the population.	7·70 annas.	11·19 annas.	9·73 annas.	13·36 annas.

Police

As compared with 1944 all classes of crimes decreased during the year, the total decrease being 9·9 per cent. This decline was in a great measure due to the availability of employment as well as to the vigorous action taken by Police under the security sections and to the greater attention paid to the Notified Tribe Members and District Criminals. It is satisfactory to note that in spite of the extra work on account of the war, the further fall in total crime was also associated with an increase in detection. The percentage of detection was 26·0 as against 23·04 in 1944 and 25·5 in 1943. The most striking decreases in crime were in dacoity and robbery cases, viz., 49·2 per cent and 22·5 per cent respectively. Murder fell by 3·7 per cent, house-breaking by 10·2 per cent, major thefts by 10·4 per cent and cattle thefts by 6·2 per cent. Decreases were noticeable in all districts except in East Godavari, Nellore, Chittoor, North Arcot, Chingleput, Tanjore, South Kanara and Trichinopoly Railway Police. There were 61 cases of riots and disturbances, including civil-military clashes. On five occasions the Police had to open fire in order to restore law and order. All the other cases were only minor in nature. For the first time tear smoke was used in dispersing a riotous mob at Madura and was, on the whole, effective. Tear smoke squads were formed in Madras City, East Godavari, North Arcot, Coimbatore and Madura North

Formation of such squads in other districts was under consideration. Tension continued to exist between the Hindus and Muslims in Nellore district and communal clashes occurred in that district and also in Salem.

Rules under the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders' Act, 1943, and amendments to the rules framed under the Criminal Tribes Act were issued during the year. The removal of surveillance over wandering gangs which proved satisfactory in certain districts, where it was tried, was extended to the whole province as an experimental measure for a year in the first instance.

Under the short-term reinforcement scheme, three Army Officers were released for employment in the Police Department and they underwent training. One of them, however, applied for reversion to the Army. Two Deputy Superintendents of Police were recruited during the year. Thirty-one Sub-Inspectors, including one from Coorg, were under training in the Police Training School, Vellore. The Central Recruits' Schools at Vellore, Coimbatore and Anantapur continued to train large numbers of recruits. The Central Recruits' Schools at Vellore and Anantapur were made permanent during the year. The additional schools at Vellore and Vizianagram which were functioning early this year, were closed on 6th May and 22nd July 1945 respectively. The Central Recruits' School at Vizianagram will be reopened as soon as sufficient numbers of ex-military recruits are available for training

The Armed Reserves, including the Sivakasi and the Kamudhi Special Forces in Ramnad district, the Presidency General Reserve, the Malabar Special Police and the Special Emergency Forces maintained a fair standard of efficiency. The additional companies sanctioned for Malabar Special Police, Armed Reserves and the Presidency General Reserve continued this year also. Two companies of the Malabar Special Police, one employed at Madras and the other in Tinnevelly district, were withdrawn. The additional Police maintained at the cost of the inhabitants at Gudipad and Musalreddipalle villages in the Cuddapah district and in Muradi Hanumapuram village in the Bellary district were retained. Punitive Police were stationed in Ennamangalam (Coimbatore district) due to systematic thefts of timber from the Reserved Forest. The additional Police at Nellore were withdrawn but quartering of additional Police in Chinnasettipalle (Cuddapah district) was sanctioned during the year.

The Village Vigilance Committees proved useful in a few districts only. The Civic Guards were abolished in eight districts as they were found unnecessary. Consequent on the cessation of hostilities many of the vulnerable point guards were withdrawn. The organization of coastal patrols was also wound up in the coastal districts. The regular Police of the coastal patrol staff in Tanjore and Ramnad districts was, however, retained for use as an anti-smuggling force to prevent smuggling of articles by sea.

The sanctioned strength of the permanent force at the end of the year 1944 was 27,036, i.e., 0·55 per thousand of the population. This was further augmented during the year by an addition of 1,200 Police constables to the taluk police strength. The Vizagapatam district was bifurcated into Vizagapatam North and Vizagapatam South each under a District Superintendent of Police. In the office of the Inspector-General of Police, the post of a Deputy Superintendent of Police was abolished and posts of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police (Administration) and an Assistant Inspector-General of Police were sanctioned. A special officer of the rank of District Superintendent of Police was appointed for three months to consider the question of the reorganization of District Police offices. The other posts sanctioned were those of a District Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, Special Branch, and a Vice-Principal of the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police for the Police Training School, Vellore.

Satisfactory relations were maintained with His Majesty's forces. In order to maintain close liaison with the officers of the West African Troops and to attend to matters of law, order and traffic questions arising out of the location of the camps of these forces, Special Police staffs were sanctioned for the districts of Chittoor and North Arcot.

City Police

1945, the year of Victory, has been the most strenuous one for all branches of the City Police, chiefly due to the fact that the City was the base for operational moves to the Far East and was also a reception centre for Released Allied Prisoners of War and Internees. With the cessation of hostilities and the announcement of elections to the Legislatures there was considerable increase in the political activity, while economic conditions continued to be difficult. Close liaison was maintained with the Services authorities in dealing with Services personnel involved in disorderly incidents in the City and necessary preventive measures were taken, though these were often handicapped by lack of adequate Military Police personnel and frequent changes among its officers and other ranks.

There was no serious riot or disturbance in the City during the year. The occurrence of one or two minor assaults between Hindus and Muslims in Vyasarpadi station limits in November caused anxiety for a time, but prompt preventive measures kept the situation well in hand and the locality became quiet. Special arrangements were made throughout the City for the Central Assembly Elections, which passed off smoothly. Unrest among City schools and colleges was evident towards the end of the year

and a number of students' strikes occurred in support of the "I.N.A." Day and the "Anti-Repression Day" necessitating special Police vigilance and precautions.

The total number of property offences reported in the City up to the end of November was 2,634 as against 3,051 in the corresponding period of last year. The decrease in crime is to a certain extent due to the limited decentralization of the staff of the Central Crime Branch. The Central Investigation Section of the Crime Branch successfully investigated a number of sensational and difficult cases. One of these was the Lakshmikantham murder case, in which the editor of a film magazine was murdered allegedly for giving publicity to love affairs in the film world. Another case was that of a defalcation in the M. & S.M. Railway office in which the Cash Order Pay Clerk of the office and others committed a criminal breach of trust to the extent of Rs. 36,000. Both the cases after protracted trials ended in convictions. Of the 9 cases of murder as against 8 last year, 2 were due to jealousy in love, and 2 due to previous enmity, the rest being the result of sudden quarrels and drunken brawls. One case of dacoity against two cases last year, was reported in which a gentleman and a lady who went to the Rayapuram Beach late at night were waylaid and robbed. Nineteen cases of robbery were reported during the year as against 20 last year. In 5 cases military personnel were found to be the culprits and one of them, a West African Military deserter was connected with several cases in other parts of India. In 5 cases of robbery, military personnel were the victims. It is satisfactory to note that house-breakings and cycle thefts decreased during the year.

Prisons, Borstal Schools and Certified Schools

There was a fall in the prison population due to the abolition of the Prohibition Act, enrolment of convicts and inmates in the Second Jail Labour Battalion and the release of detenus. The daily average number of convicts, undertrials and civil prisoners was 19,104 as against 21,113 last year. There was no overcrowding in the jails. The conduct and health of the prisoners on the whole was satisfactory and the number of prison offences decreased from 779 to 703, corporal punishments being inflicted only in three cases. Educational facilities were provided for the convicts as usual. Lectures on moral and religious subjects were given by instructors and the teaching staff. The Advisory Board Scheme was extended to prisoners over 65 years of age undergoing sentence for their first and only conviction provided they had served not less than two and a half years of their sentence including remission. Three hundred and seven persons were released under the Advisory Board Scheme as against 395 in 1944.

The one Borstal School at Palamcottah continued to function and 150 of its inmates were transferred for enrolment to the Second Jail Labour Battalion, Tanjore. The daily average strength of the school was 574 as against 556 in 1944. Twenty-three inmates were discharged on licence under section 15 (1) of the Borstal Schools Act and were placed under the custody of Probation Officers. The conduct of the inmates was satisfactory and the number of school offences declined from 31 to 18. Sixth and seventh standards were opened with a view to raise the standard of the institution to that of a higher elementary school and to send the inmates for the Government Public Examination. A course of military drill was given and a Red Cross group consisting of 100 boys was started.

The three Government Certified schools and the three private certified schools continued to function satisfactorily. To relieve overcrowding in the school at Chingleput and to provide suitable accommodation for the ever-increasing population in Ranipet school, a new junior certified school was opened in the premises of the old Borstal School, Tanjore, and 400 boys from the Ranipet school and 82 from the Chingleput school were transferred there. The daily average population of all the Certified schools increased from 2,477 to 3,119. Many of the inmates are waifs and strays who have committed no offence. One boy of the Junior Certified School, Bellary, was given a Government scholarship amounting to Rs. 180 per annum to undergo an advanced course in tailoring. Large number of pupils were employed under Messrs. Parry and Company, Ranipet, in dehydration and fuel stacking work. Everything possible was done to reform the young delinquents and enable them to rehabilitate their position in society.

Other notable administrative measures introduced during the year included the appointment of a Special Officer to evolve a scheme for the maintenance of dairies in jails; increase of subsistence allowance to pupils of the Certified schools on discharge; amendment of the Subsidiary Jail Manual in order to have more effective medical attendance in the sub-jails; the employment of temporary women warders to guard women prisoners of a dangerous type and female lunatics when sent to outside hospitals or asylums, etc.; appointment of District and Municipal Health Officers, Assistant Sessions Judges and Members of the Board of Revenue as ex-officio visitors to sub-jails; introduction of the cash earning scheme for prisoners in the Tailoring Section of the Central Jail, Coimbatore; awards to warders for proficiency in musketry, drill, etc.; appointment of male nurses in the Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary; and the appointment of a visiting Dentist and Eye Specialist in the Alipuram Jail, Bellary.

The total receipts and expenditure of the department up to the end of November 1945 increased slightly to Rs. 12·37 lakhs and Rs. 56·48 lakhs against Rs. 10·91 lakhs and Rs. 54·34 lakhs

respectively during the corresponding period of 1944. The increase in expenditure was partly due to the purchase of tools and plants such as oil mills, mortar mills, pit looms, etc., for the Central Jail, Coimbatore, and due to the grant of dearness allowance and enhanced war allowance to the staff.

Criminal Justice

There was a general decrease in the total number of crimes. This was due to the continued employment of labourers on peaceful avocations, the lesser number of prosecutions under the Defence of India Rules, increased Police vigilance, intensified action under the security sections and a more thorough registration of habitual offenders under the Criminal Tribes Act. The total crime increased in eight districts and was due to adverse seasonal conditions in those areas. There was an increase in the number of grave crimes in the districts of North Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor, Kistna, Tanjore and East Godavari, the increase in East Godavari being markedly high, while there was a definite fall in South Arcot, Nellore, Salem and Vizagapatam districts. Compared with the figures for the pre-war years of 1938 and 1939, the rising tendency in grave crime was maintained in the districts of Anantapur, North Arcot, Chingleput, Tanjore and Vizagapatam, whereas there was a fall in the other districts. With reference to offences relating to property, there was a welcome decline in such crime as compared with the pre-war years. The political atmosphere was generally quiet, although the Congress and Muslim organizations increased their activities with regard to elections.

There was an increase in the total number of offences in the City, both under the Indian Penal Code and the local and special laws. The increase under the former head was mainly in respect of offences relating to murder, grievous or simple hurt, offences against property and criminal trespass for the commission of serious offences. The increase under the local and special laws related to crimes under the Food Adulteration Act, the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance and the Madras City Police Act. The Juvenile Court presided over by the Special Honorary Magistrates worked satisfactorily and its term was extended by another year, while the post of the Fifth Presidency Magistrate in the City of Madras was abolished.

The number of Sessions cases increased in thirteen Sessions divisions, and the increase was particularly high in the districts of Chingleput and Vizagapatam. There was a noticeable fall in the Criminal Appellate work of eleven districts, while there was an increase only in the Sessions divisions of South Kanara, Kistna, Kurnool, Madura, Nellore, Salem, Tanjore East and West. Revision cases declined in most districts. In the High Court, two Honourable Judges presided over the second and third Criminal

Sessions, 1945, owing to two heavy and sensational cases—viz., Lakshmikantham's murder case and the subsequent case against Jayanandam, the approver. There was a marked increase in the number of cases committed to sessions and their disposal in the High Court. Compared with the figures for 1938 and 1939, the institution as well as disposal of referred trials, criminal appeals and revision cases was noticeably high in the High Court.

Civil Justice

In the mufassal an increase in the institution of original suits was noticed in the superior courts of ten districts, the increase being more pronounced in Anantapur, Bellary and Kistna. The increase in number, however, did not reach the figures of the pre-war years of 1938–39. There was a decrease in the institution of such suits in the superior courts of eight districts, the decrease being almost by half in North Malabar when compared with the figures of 1944. A general decrease in the institution of suits was noticed in almost all the inferior courts in the Province, except for slight increases in East Tanjore, East Godavari and Guntur. The notable feature of the year was an increase in the number of title suits, i.e., suits relating to immovable properties. The decrease in money suits was largely attributed to the prevailing economic conditions favourable to agriculturists and trading classes.

The institution of small causes fell in all the districts, except eight, where there were slight increases. The figures, however, did not reach those of the pre-war period. While there was a general fall in the number of insolvency petitions filed, there was noticeable increase in their number in Anantapur and Coimbatore districts. There was a perceptible fall in the number of execution petitions in many districts and this was attributed to the settlement of claims out of Court. Compared with the figures of the pre-war period there was a general rise in the appellate work in most districts. As compared to 1944 appellate work increased in nine districts, the most prominent being Chingleput and North Malabar. In the latter district the increase was attributed to the large number of original suits filed in the District Munsifs' Courts last year by landlords for the redemption of their land for cultivation on account of the abnormal rise in the prices of agricultural produce.

The number of original suits instituted in the City Civil Court declined further, this being accounted for by the smaller number of suits filed by the Corporation of Madras for recovery of municipal tax. In the Court of Small Causes, Madras, there was a further fall in the institution of suits and in the number of distress and execution applications. On the other hand, applications for full bench trials increased. The process and copyist establishments of the two City Courts were amalgamated during the year and a central establishment commenced functioning

In the High Court there was a slight increase in the institution of original suits, original matrimonial suits and in the number of insolvency petitions. On the Appellate Side, there was an increase in all classes of civil appeals, except appeals against orders and civil revision petitions, while there was a slight fall in referred trials, criminal appeals and revision cases.

Registration

The number of documents registered decreased by 1·5 per cent from 1,559,443 to 1,535,997 probably due to the unwillingness on the part of the ryots to invest money on immovable properties which have risen in value enormously. The income increased from Rs. 66·63 lakhs to Rs. 68·49 lakhs on account of the increase in the value of transactions, while the expenditure increased from Rs. 34·10 lakhs to Rs. 37·63 lakhs, mainly due to the grant of war and dearness allowances to the Government servants.

The temporary sub-registry offices at Veeravasaram (West Godavari-Kistna district) and Pennadam (Chidambaram district) were made permanent with effect from the 1st April 1945. The temporary additional establishment of three Sub-Registrars in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration was sanctioned for a further period of one year. Only one half of the normal fees payable were ordered to be charged for searches made in the registration records in connection with "Town-Planning Schemes." Petitions from Secretaries of District Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Boards contesting alleged illegal sales of soldiers' lands were exempted from payment of the usual fee of Re. 1. The exemption to members of co-operative societies who belong to scheduled classes from payment of fees for certain document was extended for a further period of two years.

The registering officers who were appointed as "Canvassers" under the National Savings Campaign collected from the public up to the end of November 1945, Rs. 2·51 lakhs for National Savings Certificates, Rs. 4·56 lakhs for Defence Savings Bonds and Rs. 76,179 for Victory Loans.

CHAPTER VI—LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

Years of Progress

	1914–15. RS. IN LAKHS.	1924–25. RS. IN LAKHS.	1934–35. RS. IN LAKHS.	1944–45. RS. IN LAKHS.
Mufassal Municipalities.				
Total receipts	80·91	147·31	215·2	362·89
Incidence of Taxation per head..	RS. 1–9–8	RS. 2–2–0	RS. 2–12–11	RS. 3–9–4
Total Expenditure	76·19	141·13	207·1	352·43
Expenditure on communications.	..	21·10	27·1	35·49
Expenditure on education ..	6·93	20·35	31·7	51·40
Expenditure on medical relief and sanitation..	19·22	10·47	29·92	60·22
Corporation of Madras.				
Total receipts including opening balance	61·71	103·67	194·94	269·98
Incidence of Taxation per head..	RS. 3–14–5	RS. 9–1–0	RS. 7–0–0	RS. 8–9–6
Total expenditure	43·21	..	100·61	174·93
Expenditure on communications.	2·68	7·76	7·84	14·00
Expenditure on lighting ..	0·82	3·34	..	2·71
Expenditure on education ..	0·27	2·23	8·82	6·69
Expenditure on medical relief and public health	5·57	10·67	17·03	52·2
District Boards.				
Total receipts	195·36	334·04	489·17	559·27
Total expenditure	196·26	335·29	493·40	551·14
Expenditure on communications.	51·71	119·87	156·04	146·76
Expenditure on education ..	27·18	78·99	136·56	219·60
Expenditure on medical relief and public health	22·93	26·01	32·39	40·22

There were 24 District Boards and 82 Municipalities in the Province excluding the Corporation of Madras. During the war-period, the resources of these local bodies could not be expanded sufficiently to cope with the unprecedented rise in the cost of labour and materials. Consequently, it was almost impossible to maintain the same pre-war standard of administration with the existing financial resources. To remedy this, Government took the following measures in 1945 :—

(1) The rate of land cess was increased from one and a half to two annas in the rupee of land revenue from 1st July 1945 and the entire additional income was credited to the District Boards.

(2) The rates of tax on entertainments were increased by 50 per cent on all payments exceeding two annas. After deducting the usual 10 per cent collection charges, the entire income from the tax was credited to local boards and municipal councils with effect from 1st April 1945.

(3) During the year the Madras Races became a source of revenue for the Corporation, the Chingleput District Board and the Saidapet Municipal Council. It was ordered that 35 per cent of the revenue realised under the Madras Entertainments Tax Act should be given to the Madras Corporation.

(4) With effect from 30th October 1945 an additional stamp duty was levied in the mufassal on transfers of immovable properties at 2 per cent on the value of the properties. After deducting the collection charge at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, the levy was payable to local bodies and municipal councils. A similar levy was already in force in the City of Madras.

(5) The Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 48 lakhs to district boards and Rs. 26 lakhs to municipal councils (including the City Corporation) towards a part of the deficiency in the maximum amount of toll compensation payable to them under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, for the ten years from 1931–32 to 1940–41.

(6) The Government sanctioned a temporary increase of 50 per cent in the grants payable to

(i) district boards and municipal councils for the maintenance of trunk roads; and

(ii) district boards for the maintenance of important marketing roads.

The local boards and municipal councils paid dearness and war allowances to their staff at the rates admissible to Government servants and the Government paid nearly Rs. 36 lakhs as grants-in-aid to such of the local bodies as were unable to meet the extra expenditure from their own funds.

Municipalities

The scheme of compulsory education was in force in 27 municipalities. The municipal councils maintained 1,239 elementary schools at a cost of Rs. 33·6 lakhs and provided education for 177,201 children. The number of secondary schools maintained increased from 54 to 56. The Salem Municipal Council maintained a first-grade college and the Guntur Municipal Council, a second-grade college for women.

One hundred and forty-one medical institutions were run by the municipal councils and they afforded relief to 4,610 in-patients and about 3,800,000 out-patients.

The Madras Corporation maintained 155 elementary schools, in which 41,441 children were receiving education on 31st March 1945. 63 per cent of the boys and 55·7 per cent of the girls who were on the rolls of the elementary schools in the City attended Corporation schools.

District Boards

The district boards maintained 216 secondary schools and 14,174 elementary schools of which 2,166 were for girls. The elementary schools provided education for 1,174,870 children and the secondary schools for 67,710 children in the secondary department and 20,885 in the elementary department. In the last ten

years the expenditure on education by local boards has gone up from Rs. 142 lakhs in 1935–36 to Rs. 220 lakhs in 1944–45.

The district boards maintained 1,190 medical institutions and afforded relief to 33,472 in-patients and over 125 lakhs of out-patients. Dearth of qualified staff to man the medical institutions necessitated closing down a number of dispensaries.

Panchayats

During the year 73 panchayat boards were constituted and 28 abolished for maladministration and other reasons, leaving a total of 7,129. Of these, 15 were dissolved and reconstituted and 22 were under supersession. In 46 cases the Presidents and Vice-Presidents had to be removed for abusing their power or for failure to discharge their duties properly. The ordinary elections to local bodies in 1945 were postponed for a further period of one year.

There were 1,280 panchayat schools at the end of the year with 2,117 teachers. A sum of Rs. 5,29,596 was disbursed to panchayat boards as teaching grants and towards payment of dearness allowance to teachers.

Communications

In spite of the best intentions of the Presidents of district boards and their Engineers it was not possible for district boards to maintain all the roads under their control properly, mainly on account of the inelasticity of their revenues and the necessity of incurring an increasing expenditure on public health, education, etc. The Government therefore considered that they should assume full responsibility for the maintenance of all the main lines of communication in the Province. The scheme for a separate department by name "The Highways Department" for the proper upkeep and development of roads was therefore proposed. In order to provide employment for demobilized men and to counter slump tendencies, Government approved a list of road schemes roughly estimated to cost ultimately Rs. 11 crores and the Chief Engineer (Communications) was asked to prepare detailed plans and estimates. He was also authorized to start road works in anticipation of the detailed sanctioned estimates wherever necessary to provide work for the demobilized men. The expenditure on these works up to 1st April 1947 is estimated at about Rs. $2\frac{1}{4}$ crores. These works will form the first phase of the comprehensive scheme of post-war road development which is to be spread over 15 years and is estimated to cost about Rs. 75 crores.

A grant of Rs. 2 lakhs was sanctioned by Government for the improvement of village communications in the panchayat areas and the amount was allotted to various panchayat boards.

CHAPTER VII—PUBLIC HEALTH

Years of Progress

	1914.	1924.	1934.	1944.
Number of hospitals and dispensaries	688	766	1,356	1,199
Number of in-patients ..	78,695	145,651	231,623	410,751
Number of out-patients ..	3,381,538	8,502,474	16,006,374	18,645,247
Expenditure on medical relief and public health in lakhs of rupees ..	25·18	81·77	114·15	194·56

Vital Statistics

Area of the Province	126,166 square miles.
Estimated population for mid-year 1945	51,567,657
Density of population	409 persons per square mile.

The following statistics refer to first ten months of the years 1944 and 1945 :—

	1944.	1945.
Estimated birth-rate	28·06	27·86
Estimated death-rate	23·80	21·23
Maternal mortality rate	12·2	9·6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	185·5	167·1
Total deaths	1,008,282	908,759
Cholera deaths	17,208	7,246
Smallpox deaths	16,080	17,980
Plague deaths	1,466	1,080

Public Health

The general economic conditions were the same as in the previous year, but the health conditions have shown a definite tendency towards normal. There was a fall in both the birth and the death rates for the first ten months of the year. But the drop in death rate was more than ten times that in the birth rate. The maternal and infant mortality rates followed the same tendency to decline. These appeared to be indications of a return to normal conditions after a long period of great abnormality. There was a considerable fall in the deaths from cholera and a large fall in those from plague. On the other hand, slight increases were registered under the head of smallpox and child-birth. Cholera prevailed in an epidemic form in the Ceded Districts and in Nellore, Guntur, Kistna, East and West Godavari districts. The infection subsided during the last quarter in all the affected districts excepting Nellore. The southern districts and the west coast were practically free from cholera during the year. Government ordered the formation of District Committees to draw up skeleton plans regarding measures for the prevention and control of epidemics of unusual severity which were a common feature in the last few years. Smallpox prevailed in the whole province, the worst affected districts being Vizagapatam, East and West Godavari,

Guntur, South and North Arcot, Tanjore, Coimbatore and Malabar. Plague was prevalent in rather a serious form in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, Chittoor and the Nilgiris.

Studies of the prevailing rodents and their fleas contributing to the endemicity of bubonic plague in Hosur taluk of Salem district were continued during the year. In villages where cyanogas fumigation was carried out soon after the detection of rat plague no further cases of rat falls or human cases were reported. In other villages where control measures were adopted the epidemics were very mild. It was noted that the cooler months, during which most of the plague occurs, are more congenial to the prevalence of a predominent type of flea on domestic rodents. Control of guineaworm disease by the biological method of introducing certain small species of fresh water fish in drinking water sources was under operation and the results achieved were encouraging. It was accidentally found out that when a person suffering from guineaworm disease was given cholera vaccine, the guineaworm was either ejected or absorbed. Further studies on the utilization of this treatment were under progress. The anti-malaria organization was again reorganized and the province was divided into four regions, each in charge of a Regional Malariologist with headquarters at Bezwada, Pattukkottai, Bellary and Coimbatore. The additional schemes for investigation and control of malaria sanctioned during the year were—The Perumalkuppam Land Colonization Scheme, the Guntur District Board Scheme and the Kadiri (Anantapur District) Scheme. As pyrethrum flowers were not available 2 tons of D.D.T. were obtained from the Government of India and experiments conducted as to the most economic and effective way of using it. Distribution of free quinine and quinine substitutes, such as quinacrine and mepacrine was pushed on vigorously in the endemic areas and a number of additional agents were appointed. Chapter IX of the Madras Public Health Act, 1939, was extended to new areas.

The keenness on the part of some local bodies to extend maternity and child-welfare work was again noted throughout the year. But owing to the lack of qualified Women Medical Officers, full extension was not possible. Government revised the scale of pay for the posts of Women Medical Officers, to attract candidates for posts which remained vacant. The sanctioned strength of maternity and child-welfare centres under the local bodies including Madras City was 74 Women Medical Officers, 75 Health Visitors and 597 midwives. Twelve new child-welfare centres were opened during the year making a total of 269 centres. Buildings for child-welfare centres and maternity homes were provided in three local areas. The Women Medical Officers conducted 11,175 clinics and gave health talks in 1,286 schools.

In order to minimise the occurrence of diseases borne from filth and soil pollution, Health Officers were asked to start a drive in the direction of construction of septic tank latrines in rural and urban areas. The manufacture of compost from town refuse was continued in 21 towns. Since the beginning of the scheme in April 1944, 3·1 million cubic feet of compost was prepared in all the centres. Apart from these centres there were 26 other towns where compost was made at their own instance although the Sanitary Inspectors have not been specifically trained in the process.

A nutrition laboratory was opened in June and a Chemical Assistant appointed. Survey of diets was undertaken in five districts and in the City of Madras. In all the areas surveyed, school children were particularly examined for deficiency diseases and enquiries made of any prevalence of such conditions. The total number of local bodies enforcing the provision of the Food Adulteration Act, 1945 was 224. The percentage of adulteration in milk was much the same as last year. Adulteration in ghee and butter went down. But adulteration of gingelly oil greatly increased probably due to the enormous rise in its cost. The restrictions imposed on inspections of factories as a war economy measure were withdrawn and the Health Officers started inspecting the factories in their areas twice a year.

Permanent retention of 12 Second-class Health Officers, most of them Municipal Health Officers, was sanctioned. A special batch of 60 candidates, including 40 discharged from the A.R.P. services were trained in the Sanitary Inspectors' course.

Hospitals and Dispensaries

During the year, 287 subsidized dispensaries and 51 non-subsidized dispensaries were functioning. One subsidized rural dispensary and one non-subsidized dispensary were opened and 29 dispensaries were either permanently or temporarily closed. Two subsidized rural dispensaries were converted into regular Local Fund dispensaries and one regular dispensary was closed. The Local Fund dispensaries at Madakasira, Arkonam, Bhadrachalam, Atmakur and Rasipuram were provincialized and 38 rural dispensaries were converted into dispensaries of Indian Medicine. The closure of dispensaries was due to the dearth of doctors. In view of the increased cost of living, enhanced subsidy was sanctioned to the 297 midwives working in rural dispensaries.

A new 400 k.w. outfit was purchased for use at the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras. The Government of India having lifted the ban on sales of penicillin, this essential drug became easily available during the year The Government sanctioned the continuance of the post of Provincial Blood Transfusion Officer and the question of reorganizing the Blood Transfusion

service on a peace-time basis was under consideration. As some of the rural dispensaries were not provided with a saline infusion apparatus which is essential for the treatment of cholera cases in a stage of collapse, the Government ordered that an apparatus should be supplied to each of the rural dispensaries. The Government have taken up an extensive programme of development of and improvements to medical buildings. Nurses' quarters on a greatly improved scale had already been sanctioned to two important hospitals and the extension of the scheme to all other medical institutions received attention. The building scheme in connexion with the expansion of medical education was being accelerated and proposals for the revival of schemes deferred during the war were under consideration. Construction of up-to-date operating theatres and labour wards in all hospitals found an important place in the building programme.

The Government issued a set of rules regulating the recruitment to the Madras Medical Service of Medical Graduates and Licentiates who volunteered for service in the army. Pending the selection of such candidates, appointments of Civil Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons was made on a purely temporary basis. One hundred temporary male Sub-Assistant Surgeons were appointed and 21 retired Sub-Assistant Surgeons were re-employed and 17 women Sub-Assistant Surgeons were holding the posts of male Sub-Assistant Surgeons. Of the 41 Sub-Assistant Surgeons on military duty, only four have been reverted to the civilian appointment. Government accorded sanction to the appointment of permanent Sub-Assistant Surgeons who are holding King's Commissions in the army as temporary Civil Assistant Surgeons pending the selection of war returned candidates. There were 17 Honorary Medical Officers and 142 Honorary Assistant Medical Officers in the Government Hospitals. Owing to the absence of suitable candidates for appointment, over-aged medical officers who applied for re-appointment were allowed to continue. The scarcity of qualified staff was felt very keenly during the period when many additional posts were being created to cope with the increased work in medical institutions. Ten additional posts of paid House Surgeons and House Physicians were sanctioned and their special allowance increased. Eight posts of Lay Secretaries of gazetted rank were sanctioned for Government medical institutions to relieve the heads of these institutions of some of their administrative work so that they might have more time to attend to professional and technical duties. There were 726 sanctioned appointments for members of the Nursing Staff in addition to 539 nurse pupils. Madras was the first province in India to have the post of a Gazetted Nursing Officer in the Surgeon-General's Office to assist the Surgeon-General in administration of the Nursing Services. A separate cadre of Sister Tutors was formed with higher scales of pay. All posts of Matrons and Sister Tutors were raised to the status of

Gazetted Officers. The compensatory allowances admissible to the Nursing Staff were enhanced and a number of prizes instituted to encourage them to pass their examinations creditably. The Government deputed a Sister Tutor to study Nursing Education at Toronto, Canada. The Government of India arranged to send a batch of educated young women for training as probationery nurses in the United Kingdom and the Madras Government participated in the scheme. Government sanctioned the deputation of three officers of the Madras Medical Service for advanced studies in the United Kingdom and the United States of America in Ophthalmology, Chemistry of Foods and Drugs, and Forensic Chemistry and Pharmaceutics.

Medical Education

A University Commission inspected the Madras and Stanley Medical Colleges and the attached hospitals for their recognition for higher studies in medicine and surgery and for the institution of post-graduate diploma courses. It was proposed to start these courses shortly. The concession under which women students belonging to Madras Province were exempted from payment of tuition fees in the Medical Colleges was withdrawn and they were ordered to pay fees at half the prescribed rates. Exception was made only for women belonging to the Muslim community and to the Backward or Scheduled Classes. Six free studentships were reserved for deserving poor students.

The Madras Medical College had on its rolls 1,014 students, of whom 788 including 194 women, were in the M.B.B.S. course. Despite the heavy routine teaching duties research work was done to a certain extent and 11 original contributions relating to medical subjects were published. Research into the indigenous drugs used in veterinary practice with particular reference to their toxicology was extended for a further period of one year. In the Stanley Medical College, 72 students including 15 women were admitted. In addition, 10 licentiates entered the college for the shortened course of M.B.B.S. At the end of the year, there were 468 students in the M.B.B.S. course. Recognition was granted by the University for courses in M.D. Branch I—General Medicine and M.S. Branch I—General Surgery. One of the recommendations of the University Commission was put into effect by the construction of an additional block to provide for the departments of Anatomy, Physiology, Organic and Bio-Chemistry. Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar's Lying-in-Hospital which was the clinical training centre of this college in Midwifery was taken over by the Government from the Corporation of Madras and plans and estimates were under preparation for the construction of a new maternity hospital with a view to improve the clinical teaching in Obstetrics and Gynæcology.

In the Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam, 55 students were admitted to the pre-registration class. Arrangements were

made to start post-graduate training for the Diploma in Laryngology and Otology of the Andhra University and the Ear, Nose and Throat Department was re-organized for the purpose. A clinical pathologist was appointed to take charge of the laboratory in the Pathology Department which greatly facilitated its work. In the Surgery Department the rush for admissions continued to be as great as before and it was extremely difficult to keep to the allotted ward strengths. From the middle of July 1945 a beginning was made in the formation of a separate Orthopaedic Department in the King George Hospital. A welcome return to normal conditions was the receipt back from Vellore of the hospital supply of radium and several malignant growths were treated by radio-therapy. The number of cases that received blood transfusion was large enough to show that relatives and friends of patients were becoming less and less nervous of donating blood when required. The Government sanctioned an increase in the number of admissions to this College from 55 to 100, but it was not possible to give effect to this scheme for want of building accommodation.

The King Institute

The King Institute, Guindy, continued to perform its functions as the main bacteriological laboratory and centre for the manufacture of bacterial vaccines and sera. The activities of the Institute were carried out in sections and a group of related sections was placed under the charge of each of the four Assistant Directors for efficient working and control.

Due to intensive vaccinations there was an unusually heavy demand for vaccine lymph and over 7¾ million doses were supplied. The entire demand from the province and from the military authorities was met in full, including a special supply for the American Army. Nearly 7 million c.c. of cholera vaccine and 145,000 c.c. of T.A.B. vaccine were issued during the year and over 553,000 c.c. of plague vaccine obtained from Haffkine Institute, Bombay, were stored and distributed to the Public Health authorities. The issue of cholera vaccine increased considerably and almost half the quantity was required to meet the demand from Central Provinces, Berar and the Rajputana States. The demand for therapeutic vaccine was also heavy. Routine supplies of sterile solutions were continued and over 143,000 ampoules were issued. In the Diagnostic department over 9,000 specimens were received for microscopical, bacteriological and histopathological examinations. Nearly 48,000 specimens of sera were examined for syphilis both by Kahn and Wassermann tests. An interesting feature of this year's work was the large number of examinations done for the diagnosis of infectious mononucleosis.

Autogenous vaccines were prepared for 265 patients. The supply of bacterial suspensions for diagnostic purposes became a regular feature of the Institute. The department of antitoxins opened in 1943 possessed 17 horses under active immunization for the production of Gas Gangrene and Antitetanus Antitoxins. The work on the construction of a separate block for this department was rapidly progressing.

The Water and Sewage Purification Committee reviewed the experiments in progress at the Experimental Filter Station, Kilpauk, and discussed a variety of problems relating to water supply and sewage disposal. The important experiments carried out during the year related to the usefulness of pre-aeration of the Red Hills Lake water prior to sand filteration. Microscopical examination of the algæ and other suspended impurities in the raw and treated waters of the protected water supplies was made and measures for control of micro-organisms were indicated. Such measures were successfully adopted for Mahamaham tank water prior to the festival there in February 1945. Routine examinations were done of 13,000 samples of water collected from different centres, representing an increase of about 2,000. Nearly 130 samples of water were analysed for their suitability for various non-domestic and industrial uses such as manufacture of rayon, ceramic products, etc. Samples of rock dust from a quarry were analysed for their silica and other mineral content to determine the risk with reference to sillicosis among the workmen. A considerable part of the technical resources of the department was devoted during the year to meet the requirements of the Armed Forces in matters relating to the examination of drinking water, analysis of samples of canned foods, milk, etc.

The blood bank team continued to pay regular visits, but could obtain only 1,201 donations. The majority of donors were from the police force and from the members of the technical services. From the donations received 136 litres of plasma were prepared. Owing to cessation of hostilities it was no longer considered necessary to store large quantities of plasma for emergency uses and available stocks were distributed to the various hospitals in the City.

Research activities which had to a certain extent been held in abeyance during the period of war were renewed. Investigation into the etiology of tropical ulcer was undertaken and some interesting results obtained with regard to its epidemiology. Study of typhoid bacteriophages was initiated and the results obtained will be of great use in the study of the prevalence of typhoid in various endemic localities. Investigation on the use of vegetable oil blends as mosquito larvicides was pursued. The study of the bacteriological quality of milk to determine the most practicable clean condition of milk production was carried out. Experiments initiated four years ago on the utility of membrane lymph as compared

with calf lymph in its protection against smallpox were almost completed and the data obtained will be of considerable interest in determining the vaccination policy in the Province. Another interesting line of research with enormous utility value was the attempt to manufacture a vaccine for influenza. This was actually achieved on an experimental basis and the possibility of its manufacture on a limited basis was under investigation.

Indian Medicine

The total number of students in the School of Indian Medicine at the beginning of the academic year was 346 including 44 women. There were 49 stipendiaries paid by Government or local bodies. In the hospital attached to the school, the daily average attendance of in-patients and out-patients was 179 and 894, respectively. It was noticed that admissions to the hospital were rapidly increasing and the present sanctioned strength of 110 beds was insufficient. In the mufassal many rural dispensaries of modern medical science were converted into those of Indian Medicine due to dearth of practitioners in modern medical science. But the L.I.Ms. were very reluctant to take up employment and so a number of such dispensaries remained closed for want of staff.

CHAPTER VIII—EDUCATION

Years of Progress

	1914–15.	1924–25.	1934–35.	1944–45.
Number of public institutions	29,083	44,309	50,391	37,500
Number of pupils in public institutions	1,417,840	2,105,695	3,053,446	3,450,212
Expenditure on education from Provincial funds in lakhs of rupees (financial year)	78·31	171·25	253·05	366·16

Elementary Education

	1914–15.	1924–25.	1934–35.	1944–45.
Number of public elementary schools—				
For boys	26,905	40,340	43,787	31,841
For girls	1,516	2,977	5,336	4,179
Total strength of boys' elementary schools	1,143,995	1,695,863	2,417,410 (458,853 girls)	2,597,472 (753,215 girls)
Strength of girls' elementary schools	119,963	200,733	381,013	428,441

Secondary Education

	1914–15.	1924–25.	1934–35.	1944–45.
Number of boys' public secondary schools ..	333	506	541	599
Number of girls' public secondary schools ..	38	63	75	146
Number of boys in secondary schools	129,428	154,046	169,852	279,734
Number of girls in secondary schools	..	14,628	26,337	65,020

Collegiate Education

	1914–15.	1924–25.	1934–35.	1944–45.
Number of Arts Colleges ..	32	45	44	44
Number of men in colleges.	8,120	9,744	10,090	22,313
Number of women in colleges	104	476	774	2,685

Interesting Statistics

Percentage of pupils under instruction to the total population		7·0
Strength in the 16 Professional Colleges		3,393
Number of women in Professional Colleges		505
Total number of teachers in elementary schools		104,945
Number of pupils belonging to scheduled classes in schools		424,821
Number of Muslim pupils in schools	Boys ..	234,283
	Girls ..	124,221

The considerable fall in the number of public institutions since 1934–35 is almost wholly contributed by a reduction in the number of elementary schools. To avoid wastage and stagnation in elementary schools, single teacher schools and other schools which

were uneconomic, inefficient or superfluous were eliminated. This was done by prescribing a minimum average attendance of 20 pupils for eligibility for recognition and aid. There has, however, been an appreciable increase in the number of pupils despite the reduction in the number of schools.

During the year the Government sanctioned the post of an additional Inspectress of Girls' Schools and thus increased the number of these posts to seven. The inspecting staff of elementary schools in Agency Tracts was also strengthened. The Adviser to Government on Manual Training was re-employed for a period of one year. The Government increased the allotment under " Library grant " from Rs. 55,000 to Rs. 75,000. Scholarships were instituted for " Marava " children in Tinnevelly district. Under the scheme formulated by the Government of India, scholarships were awarded to students and certain members of the staff of the Engineering College, Guindy, to enable them to proceed to other countries for higher studies in technical and scientific subjects.

The year was marked by an unprecedented rush for admissions into the various colleges and generally the strength of colleges was increased. In the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, B.Sc. Degree courses were opened and the number of admissions into the Science Group of the Intermediate class was increased from 108 to 144. New classes were started in the Government Muhammadan College, Madras, and 35 more students were taken into the History Group of the Intermediate class. The maximum number of women to be admitted into the Presidency College, Madras, was raised to 225 and the number of students in Queen Mary's College was also increased. Sanction was accorded by Government for the employment of additional staff required as a result of the increase in the strength of these colleges.

Additional recurring and non-recurring grants were sanctioned to Annamalai University in connexion with the opening of a Engineering Course. The " Arthur Hope College of Technology " at Coimbatore was opened to provide courses in (*a*) Textile Technology, (*b*) Automotive Engineering, (*c*) Electrical Technology and (*d*) Civil Engineering. Degree courses in " Highway Engineering " and " Electrical Communications Engineering " were permitted to be opened in the Engineering College, Guindy, and the number of candidates to be admitted in this College was increased from 100 to 120 in case of the Engineering Degree Class and from 80 to 90 in case of the class for Licentiate in Civil Engineering.

Secondary grade and elementary grade training classes were sanctioned for three schools. Additional training sections were sanctioned in a large number of training schools to provide trained teachers required for implementing the policy of universal compulsory elementary education. Six women students were allowed to join the Teacher's College, Saidapet, as a special case this year.

During the year, Government sanctioned the opening of 11 additional secondary schools. The limit of income described under the Madras Educational Rules for grant of educational concessions was further raised to Rs. 820 per annum in the case of secondary schools and Rs. 1,120 in the case of colleges. For purposes of teaching grants to aid private educational institutions other than elementary schools, sanction was accorded to take into account the expenditure incurred for payment of dearness or war allowance to members of the staff at the rates admissible to Government servants.

Compulsory elementary education was introduced in selected villages of each district. The object was to bring under instruction at least one-twenty-fourth of the children of school-going age in each district. Arrangements were also made for the provision of free midday meals for poor children reading in elementary schools in the selected villages. Elementary schools were opened in four villages of the West Godavari Agency and three model schools with standards I to V were opened in three Government Teachers' Training institutions. The dearness allowance paid to teachers in elementary schools under private management was increased to Rs. 8 per month. Government approved a proposal that teachers in aided elementary schools, who have a continuous service of not less than 12 months may be declared to be eligible for leave for a period of 15 days and appropriate rules were framed.

Government Examinations

30,735 candidates (27,857 boys and 2,881 girls) obtained the Secondary School Leaving Certificates during the year. One thousand two hundred and forty-seven candidates were admitted for the examination without payment of fees. Of these, 17 were children of ex-army men of the Great War and the rest children and dependants of those serving in the Second World War. Four hundred and twelve schools out of 491 schools which presented candidates used the languages of the Province as the medium of instruction and examination in non-language subjects in higher forms. The number of papers in second language (Group A) was increased from two to three and under Group C "History of India and Movements in History" was substituted for "History of England and India." The Public Examination at the end of VIII standard in higher elementary schools was held in 399 centres and 2,006 schools presented pupils for the examination. Twenty-six thousand four hundred and eighty-seven candidates appeared for the examination, out of whom 11,487 were successful. The percentage of passes was 44 which is about the same as last year.

CHAPTER IX—NATURAL RESOURCES

Forests

Years of Progress

	1914–15. RS. IN LAKHS.	1924–25. RS. IN LAKHS.	1934–35. RS. IN LAKHS.	1944–45. RS. IN LAKHS.
Revenue	40·18	55·70	42·26	140·75
Expenditure	29·37	51·18	38·83	81·48
Balance	10·81	4·52	3·43	59·27
Timber (output in tons) ..	132,517	99,080	65,480	87,840
Fuel (output in tons)	274,414	289,666	201,650	483,640

The important feature of the year was the formulation of the Post-War Reconstruction Schemes. Recommendations included re-opening of the Forest College at Coimbatore, resumption of the panchayat forests, further reservation of forests including the village forests, control of private forests, the extension of teak, softwood and casuarina plantations, the formation of Soil Conservation and Working Plans Circles and improved amenities for the Forest staff and labour. The Forest College at Coimbatore was re-opened during the year. A retired Conservator of Forests, who was appointed last year on special duty to survey and assess the damage done to Government and private forests by over-exploitation, submitted his report. His term of office was extended for another year, and the scope of his work was extended to include such items as village forests, private forests, etc. A Special Fodder Division was formed at Bellary for supply of hay to the Military Department. Four Assistant Conservators were appointed in the coastal regions for extension of casuarina plantations, and the Coastal Casuarina Division sanctioned last year was converted into a Territorial Division. Assistant Conservators were appointed temporarily (1) for casuarina research; (2) to investigate the question of fuel plantations to produce the charcoal required for an iron ore industry in Salem district; (3) for submission of proposals for the acquisition of teak-wood and soft-wood plantations in the West Coast; (4) for afforestation of the Hagari river and the Tungabhadra canal banks; and (5) for construction of roads in the Javadis.

Reserved forests covered 18,777 square miles representing 15 per cent of the total area of the Province. Steps were taken to restore and extend on a large scale the teak forests which had been over-exploited to meet the war demands and to form softwood plantations to meet the growing industrial needs. Timber plantations mainly of teak were formed over an area of 2,182 acres. To compensate for over-exploitation of fuel forests necessitated by the war conditions and to ensure a steady supply in future, large-scale planting of casuarina was continued on a regular programme

in selected divisions, and an area of 5,224 acres was planted. During the year, the Forest Department supplied Madras City with 120,630 tons of firewood mostly through its contractors. Foodcrops were raised in fuel and timber plantations by the Kumri method over an aggregate area of about 4,462 acres. Pyrethrum plantations covered 2,363 acres in the Nilgiris and Palnis and about 67 tons of dried flowers were supplied to the Government of India.

The Timber Supply Circle formed in 1942 to arrange for the Army requirements continued to control all the timber supplies including those from Travancore and Cochin States. The turnover of the Circle rose from Rs. 132 lakhs to Rs. 178 lakhs. The War Department was supplied with over 23,000 tons of logs and the railways with about 115,000 sleepers, blocks, etc. From these transactions the revenue realized amounted to over Rs. 32 lakhs. The Timber Transport Advisory Committee constituted to arrange railway transport for timber operated smoothly. The control over the transport of timber by sea and rail from the West Coast continued.

Forest Panchayats

During the year under report, seven forest panchayats were transferred to the control of the Forest Department. The question of the transfer of panchayats "*en bloc*" to the Forest Department for efficient administration has not been finally decided by the Government. Planting of fodder trees under the "Taungya" method of regeneration was continued in the Tondavada Panchayat in Chittoor. The response from the panchayats and public to the expansion of Kumri cultivation was poor.

Fisheries

The fishing season on the West Coast was better than last year, but on the East Coast there was a considerable fall in catches owing to the famine conditions in North Vizagapatam, bad weather throughout the coast and the cyclone in October 1945 that swept the coast of South Vizagapatam and East Godavari. At the West Hill Biological Station the study of "Chalamathi" was completed and the Oil Sardines and Mackerel investigations were continued. At the Krusadai Biological Station, "Hydrographical and Meteorological" data were recorded and research was continued on various items such as food fishes, the culture pearl experiments, etc. The Fresh Water Biological Station at Chetput was the main research centre for pisciculture. A Hydrological Wing was attached to this station and the work on breeding of catla in confined waters and on aquatic manuring with surplus explosives was in progress. In the Nilgiri Trout waters the work done included calcium manuring, planting riparian vegetation and erecting boulder dams.

A new station which is likely to be most popular and useful was organized at Akividu in the Collair Lake for semi-drying prawns and the technique of processing inland prawns was worked out. In order to meet the great increase in the demand for fish, extensive collection of fry and fingerlings from fresh and salt waters was undertaken and new fish nurseries were established. Intensive stocking of all provincial waters was continued. A fresh water fish farm at Chetput and a salt water fish farm at Adyar were worked to augment the supply to Madras City. A special Public Health Officer worked on the biological control of such water-borne diseases as malaria and guineaworm by breeding larvicidal fish. To popularize fish-farming, 14 demonstration fish farms and 11 rural fishery demonstration units were opened. Popular courses on inland piscicultural training were conducted to make the public more interested in inland fish-farming. Deep Sea Fishing operations yielded good results, but the Army decided to discontinue the arrangements for supply of smoked fish to them thus releasing these products for civilian consumption.

A Hilsa Research Officer was sanctioned to solve the problems of the important Hilsa fishery. A special fishery engineering unit was sanctioned for the work relating to constructions and hydro-dynamic investigations on the riverine fisheries. The staff employed to locate spawning grounds underwent special training in Bengal. The Special Officer appointed to develop and organize the fish manure industry instructed the owners of oil and guano factories and people engaged in catching and curing fish to convert all fish waste and surplus fish into high class guano fish oil and fish manure. The Government sanctioned the appointment of a Fish Preservation Officer with two Research Assistants and staff to improve the technique of preservation. The Fisheries Technological Institute at Calicut was also revived. Two posts of Deputy Directors of Fisheries were sanctioned, one for Marine Fisheries and the other for Inland Fisheries. With a view to improve the quality of craft and tackle now employed in fishing, two Special Officers were appointed, one for marine and the other for inland fisheries. The Government of India started a scheme for training students from maritime Provinces and States in Marine and Inland Fisheries at Madras and the first course was completed in August 1945.

During the year there was a slight fall in the quantity of shark liver oil extracted on the West Coast, but this was exceeded by the marked increase in the extraction on the East Coast. The total receipt of crude oil was 8·6 lakhs of gallons and the quantity of prepared oil was 22,550 gallons. Steps were taken to increase the production capacity of the Government Oil Factory at Calicut by installation of an additional filter press and crude oil storage tanks and by re-arranging the platforms and machinery inside the factory. As a result of this, it is expected that the capacity of the

factory can be enhanced to 100,000 gallons of M.G.B. shark liver oil per year. It is also noteworthy that under the new arrangement oil will not be touched by hand in any of the processes. As the factory experienced difficulties for want of suitable accommodation, the construction of additional sheds, spacious laboratory and office rooms was taken up. Over 44,000 lbs. of salt preserved livers were treated at the factory by the steaming process and 1,571 gallons of oil were thus obtained.

Pure shark liver oil of potency from 6,000 to 12,000 International Units of Vitamin "A" was offered for sale in limited quantities to stud farms, veterinary institutions and others engaged in pharmaceutical preparations. In the interest of child nutrition "Adamin", a high potency oil was sold to Mission and Government hospitals. In this year the richest oil so far produced in the Province was extracted in the factory with a potency of 219,000 International Units of Vitamin "A" per gramme.

Minerals

The principal minerals worked were barytes in Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool; bauxite, corundum and magnesite in Salem; mica and steatite in Nellore; asbestos in Cuddapah; gypsum and phosphatic nodules in Trichinopoly; red-oxide of iron in Bellary; manganese in Bellary and Vizagapatam; chromite in Kistna and gold in Chittoor. China-clay, felspar, quartz, lime-shell and gypsum were also mined in the Nellore district. A small quantity of steatite was produced in Anantapur. Limestone continued to be extracted in large quantities in Coimbatore district for the manufacture of cement. The output of limestone in Trichinopoly district increased to an appreciable extent.

The number of applications for mica mining increased in Nellore, Coimbatore and the Nilgiris, but the actual production of mica decreased during the year. The demand for other minerals required for war purposes continued to be great and a large number of persons applied for prospecting licences and mining leases. The increase in the number of applications for steatite, barytes, varieties of china-clay, yellow ochre, white shale and slate stones was noteworthy. Special steps were taken and special concessions shown to interested people, in the collection of corundum, beryl, samarskite and tantalite which were required for war purposes.

CHAPTER X—TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Trade

The total value of private trade, both foreign and coastal, for the first eleven months of the year fell by Rs. 5·1 crores to Rs. 116·4 crores. The value of foreign imports increased considerably by Rs. 3·4 crores to Rs. 23·5 crores; but the exports decreased slightly to Rs. 36·7 crores. The largest increases under imports were of oils—Rs. 324 lakhs; machinery and mill work—Rs. 42 lakhs; and building and engineering materials—Rs. 32 lakhs. There were also increases under metals and ores, vehicles (excluding locomotives, etc.), instruments, apparatus and appliances and spices. There was a decrease in the imports of cotton piece-goods, chemicals, manures and dyeing and tanning substances. Exports of groundnuts, coffee, fish, raw rubber, tea and coloured cotton piece-goods declined, whereas those of tanned skins, castor seeds, coir products, fruits and vegetables, pepper and tobacco increased. The coastal trade of the province declined by over Rs. 8 crores.

The total import revenue for the year rose from Rs. 610 lakhs to Rs. 896 lakhs. This was mostly due to the large arrivals of motor and aviation spirit and kerosene oil. The revenue figures for imports of spirits and liquors also showed a rise by over Rs. 6 lakhs to Rs. 29 lakhs. Export revenue showed an increase of Rs. 10 lakhs and the cess collected under the Agricultural Produce Cess Act amounted to Rs. 7·6 lakhs. The total trade (imports and exports) with the British Empire recorded a decrease of Rs. 3·3 crores.

Ports

The restrictions imposed during the war on ocean shipping were removed in August 1945, but the number and tonnage of sailing craft which entered the ports showed a slight decrease owing to the restrictions on the transport of certain commodities on the West Coast. The coastal traffic was heavy at Cuddalore and Cocanada. The existing reduced rates of Port dues were continued, but revised rates for certain classes of vessels were sanctioned to take effect from 1st January 1946. Port dues collected increased at five ports and showed a general decrease at Mangalore, Calicut and Negapatam. There was no passenger traffic at any of the minor ports, except at Dhanushkodi and a little at Calicut and Cannanore. The lighthouses at minor ports were put into operation again consequent upon the cessation of hostilities. The country-craft organization scheme for the East Coast of this Province was discontinued with effect from 1st December 1945.

Industries and Commerce

The Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Intelligence continued to provide general and technical information on industrial and commercial subjects. Applications for capital issues were scrutinized and forwarded to the Government of India for sanction. One meeting of the Board of Industries was held and the subscription of shares worth Rs. 22 lakhs on behalf of the Government was sanctioned in two concerns. During the year the scheme of District Industries Officers was introduced and nine officers were appointed after a short period of training. These officers helped the Director to answer enquiries regarding the financial standing of firms and names of manufacturers of various articles and to report on the condition of the existing industries and on the possibilities of starting new ones. They were also expected to supervise and guide the existing cottage industries and help demobilized soldiers to set up new cottage industries.

Spare parts required by the rice mills were not easily available and as it was imperative that the mills should continue to produce rice, a scheme was worked out to manufacture fabricated parts in various firms and workshops. Further, whenever necessary, imported stores were requisitioned. During the year under review the coal quota under the Provincial Distribution Scheme was increased from 67 to 150 wagons per month. The Iron and Steel Section which was inaugurated in 1944 met the demands of the manufacturers of consumer goods and other industrialists of the Province. During the year about 2,700 tons of standard steel and about an equal quantity of usable defectives were distributed. With effect from 1st November 1945 the control on the acquisition of defectives was relaxed. The distribution of sole leather and grindery released by the Footwear Controller, Delhi, was also entrusted to the Provincial Government. Regarding paper, the permissible quota under the Economy Order was raised by 40 per cent on account of a general improvement in the supply position.

In pursuance of the Government policy of rapid industrialization of the Province this department organized a chemical laboratory where analysis and investigations of various minerals could be carried out in order to collect fundamental data regarding their utilization for different industries. The department initiated a scheme for the investigation of alkaline earth deposits for the manufacture of soda ash and caustic soda. A Special Officer was appointed to prepare plans for a vegetable ghee factory and in October 1945, Government sanctioned the establishment of a factory at Calicut capable of producing 10 tons of vegetable ghee and 5 tons of refined oil per day. Under a scheme for the expansion of the vegetable ghee industry, the Government of India allotted to this Province the production of 21,000 tons per annum and it was decided to permit private industrialists to set

up 7 factories each with a capacity of 3,000 tons. Government sanctioned a scheme for the manufacture of coir and its products and Mangalore and Calicut were selected for the erection of factories. Government granted Rs. 6,617 to a public body in Tadpatri for the development of handspinning in the famine areas of Ceded districts.

Kerala Soap Institute.—The main features of the year's working were the larger output of soaps, refining of groundnut oil and the distillation and analysis of essential oils. Analysis of 'lyes' from the soap boiling pans was continued with the object of extracting something useful from this waste product. One thousand one hundred and fifty samples of oils, soaps and other products were analysed as against 1,000 last year. The great demand for Kerala soaps could not be fully met due to the limited capacity of the factory. The supply of a special brand of medicated soaps was revived. A party was sent to Madukkarai to demonstrate the process of soap manufacture as a cottage industry by the "cold process" and the distillation of essential oils and also to train the demobilized soldiers. The work in connection with the preparation of stearic acid from dhupa fat was carried out successfully. The distillation of essential oils was continued on a commercial scale and 1,366 pounds of various oils were produced from the nine stills in operation. Cultivation of essential oil-bearing plants was extended by 17 acres making a total of 27·15 acres.

Other manufactures.—The Coir School at Beypore worked under the remodelled scheme. Demonstrations on the improved methods of coir manufacture were continued in Ramnad and Tanjore districts and a new training centre for evacuees was started in South Kanara. Two factory units at Calicut and Mangalore were set up for the manufacture of coir goods. The three paper manufacturing units in the Province continued to function as state trading schemes. Attempts were made to manufacture cellulose from paddy husk, groundnut husk and some grasses and the unit at Bezwada experimented upon the conversion of rags into pulp. Demonstrations to popularize the paper industry were held in various districts.

Sericulture.—The seasonal conditions were unsatisfactory during the latter half of the year, particularly in Kollegal and Hosur taluks. The sudden end of the war affected the silk trade in taluks. The sudden end of the war affected the silk trade in the manufactured silk was released for civilian consumption. The Cocoon Control Order was cancelled by the Mysore authorities resulting in the rise of cocoon prices to unprecedented levels. This affected sericultural areas in this Province and there was a tendency for Madras Cocoons to be smuggled into Mysore.

The various concessions granted to the mulberry cultivators by way of loans and remission of assessment continued to be in

force and were extended to new areas. The total area of mulberry cultivation was 190,905 acres including 2,964 acres planted during the year. The silk worms are liable to a peculiar disease known as "Pebrine" which is highly contagious and can render the work of the silk-worm rearers ineffective. Special establishments called "Grainages" are organized with the object of producing disease-free eggs or seeds known as "Layings" for distribution to the silk-worm rearers. In these grainages earliest signs of the disease even at the stage when the worm lays eggs can be detected and subsequently microscopic examinations are also carried out. The grainages are run as Government concerns and also as private concerns, the owners of which are given a bonus to encourage them in their work. Government sanctioned the opening of 30 grainages in Kollegal taluk to keep pace with the mulberry expansion and also to encourage interested sericulturists. An Assistant Sericultural Expert was appointed for intensive research on mulberry and allied subjects. It was proposed to establish a Sericultural Research Station at Kollegal. Due to the reorganization of Government grainages it was possible to increase the production of layings in spite of the adverse weather conditions during the year. A notable feature was the increased production of layings in the Government grainages of quicker and higher yielding hybrid seeds together with the rapid progress made in the production of pure Mysore seeds in Kollegal and Hosur taluks. Over nine million pure Mysore seed cocoons were drawn from these areas as against 30 lakhs from Mysore State.

In the Central Silk Farm, Kollegal, construction of the Model Rearing House with a cold storage room was completed and the construction of a Central Grainage was sanctioned. The mulberry garden attached to the Government Silk Farm, Coonoor, was extended. As the stock of foreign races of silk worms reared in the several farms had deteriorated in quality, the Sericultural Expert was deputed to China and he was able to bring back 100 ounces of different breeds. The Kollegal silk filatures and the Government silk filatures in Kollegal continued to work satisfactorily and both were busy supplying the War Department mostly with parachute silk till their contracts were terminated.

A series of lectures were given at Hosur for military persons who visited the Hosur Seed Farm and a Training Centre was started at Madukkarai Military Camp under the care of an Instructor. It is proposed to establish a Sericultural Colony in Kollegal taluk for about 80 soldier families.

Engineering.—A large number of borewells for the Rural Water-supply Schemes and for military establishments were put down by the Departmental Hand Boring and Power Drill Sets. Difficulty in getting steel lining pipes and couplings continued. Borings were put down to ascertain the extent of available underground water sources in Araku valley and other land colonization

schemes. The Industrial Engineering Workshops were engaged in manufacturing industrial borewell pumps and machinery required for the handmade paper industry and the manufacture of table salt. Experiments on a Industries Borehole pump adapted for bullock power were successfully completed. The advantage of this pump is that a considerable amount of water is obtained from deep bore holes at low cost. A cheap and efficient roaster was designed, which eliminates poisonous fumes emanating during the roasting of nuts and extracts the maximum quantity of oil.

Industrial education.—During the year one scholarship tenable at the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, four scholarships tenable at the Andhra University, Guntur, and seven scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, were awarded. Three scholarships were instituted for students doing research work in the laboratory attached to the Provincial Broadcasting Department, Madras.

The Government School of Technology, Madras, had 857 pupils at the end of the year, and the slight fall since last year was due to some candidates securing jobs in the middle of the year. Two new courses, namely, the Sound Engineering and Cinematography Course and the Cinema Operator's course were introduced. The Government Industrial Schools at Madura, Calicut and Bellary and the training school at Mangalore continued to function satisfactorily. At Madura the manufacture of agricultural implements and spare parts for rice mills was undertaken, and it was proposed to re-organize the toy-making section. The "Arthur Hope Polytechnic Institute" was opened at Coimbatore to give instruction in Automobile Engineering, Auto Servicing, Radio Servicing and Refresher courses. There were 79 aided Industrial Schools which were given a maintenance grant of nearly Rs. 1,20,000. Proposals were under consideration for starting six more polytechnics and 15 new industrial schools.

The School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, maintained steady progress and proposals for reorganization of the school were under consideration. The Ceramic section of the School of Arts and Crafts did useful work. Various pottery training centres in the Province were extended. It was proposed to open a training centre for the revival of the once flourishing bangle and bead industry. A survey of the raw materials suitable for making Mangalore pattern roofing tiles and bricks in Bellary and Vizagapatam districts was sanctioned. Sanction was obtained for the establishment of a ceramic factory at Gudur and proposals were submitted for starting a Ceramic Institute attached to the factory. The Leather Trades' Institute functioned both as a research and instructional institution. The University of Madras instituted a degree course in Leather Technology.

Control of the Government Textile Institute was transferred to the Director of Industries and Commerce, and 58 persons were undergoing training in various courses. Special courses in weaving, bleaching, dyeing and printing were commenced in December. In the Cloth Designing section a number of sample cloths were designed and got woven by the expert weavers attached to the section. A special feature this year was the attempt at Benares Saree Weaving on the same lines as in Benares but with some changes in the loom equipment. Government sanctioned the regular working of the gold thread section of the Institute to produce a standard quality of gold thread. The Tinctorial Chemist directed his research work on various useful items such as the utilization of cashewnut shell and Gum Kino in the preparation of dyes.

Eight Military men were deputed for training in the special course for weavers and a special course was sanctioned to be conducted at the Madras Regimental Centre, Madukkarai. The question of giving training in weaving and dress-making to wives and widows of soldiers was also considered.

Textiles

The work of the Textile Control Department was confined to the administration of the Provincial and Central Control Orders for cotton textiles, dyes and chemicals, artificial silk and pure silk as well as the distribution of silk fabrics. To cope with the additional work a Joint Provincial Textile Commissioner, eight Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners and ten Textile Control Officers were appointed. The Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners were appointed to enforce the distribution schemes efficiently and to supervise the district staff. For silk control work two more Textile Control Officers were sanctioned. With the assignment of high priority for textiles, the transport situation which handicapped the despatch of quotas allotted by the department to dealers improved considerably towards the end of the year.

The quota of cloth for the Province as for the rest of the south deficit zone was fixed on the basis of 12 yards per person and the basic allotment per month from November 1945 worked out to 11,134 bales. The internal distribution of mill cloth within the Province was enforced under a scheme which guaranteed an equitable share to each district. The mill-made standard cloth scheme was abandoned and no fresh indents were sent. But 9,000,000 yards of cloth indented for and allotted previously were received and distributed during the year.

The scheme for control of yarn distribution known as the District Quota System continued to work satisfactorily. The distribution lists showing the quantities of yarn and counts of yarn

for each consumer were superseded by the issue of ration cards. These cards mentioned the number of looms under each count possessed by the consumer, the quantity of yarn to be supplied to him and the retail dealer who should supply the yarn. Grey yarn was supplied to dyers who held licences to deal in coloured yarn.

The distribution of artificial silk yarn was entrusted to this department from April 1945. "The Madras Artificial Silk Yarn (Dealers) Control Order" was promulgated, with the object of introducing a suitable scheme of control over the dealers in such yarn. The total quantity of yarn distributed was over 150,000 lbs. The Central Government have agreed to allot to Madras 26·05 per cent of all the artificial silk yarn imported into India and this is expected to cause some improvement in the supply position. The Government of India fixed ceiling rates for the various kinds of pure silk yarn and also the manufacturing charges for silk fabrics. To implement this decision the Provincial Government passed three Control Orders, viz., the Madras Silk Yarn (Transport) Control Order, the Madras Silk Yarn (Dealers) Control Order and the Madras Silk Fabrics Control Order.

The price of handloom cloth continued to rise in spite of the progressive reductions in prices of yarn, dyes and chemicals as the handloom exporters taking advantage of the conditions prevailing in Bengal and Ceylon were prepared to pay exorbitant prices and thus raise the market level. The Provincial Government accordingly promulgated the Madras Cotton Cloth (Exports) Control Order, 1945, under which no cloth can be transported from any place within the Province to any place in India outside it except under a permit. The total quantity of handloom cloth to be allowed for export was fixed at 6,000,000 yards per month and this quota was distributed among the several Provinces and States. To avoid criticism that the exporters to Ceylon were exploiting the Ceylon market and also to ensure that excessive quantities of finer cloth are not exported to that market, a scheme was formulated fixing the varieties of handloom cloth which can be exported to Ceylon and their maximum producers' and exporters' prices.

All the collective weaving centres were transferred to the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society along with the handsome subsidy granted by the Government.

Five Textile Control Officers were appointed exclusively for work relating to the control of dyes and chemicals. A new scheme was introduced for effective enforcement of the Cotton Textiles (Dyes and Chemicals) Control Order under which the dealers of these articles were granted licences and the consumers were given permits. Thus the distribution of dyes and chemicals was organized on a more systematic basis.

Cloth and yarn shops were inspected during the year systematically and extensively. When effective control was introduced

over the export of handloom and mill-made cloth ingenious attempts were made to transport cloth by railway as personal luggage. In one case cloth worth Rs. 50,000 packed in holdalls and suit cases was seized by the Railway Police and 40 persons were charged. Dealers in Salem who had been found hoarding dyes and chemicals were convicted and goods worth Rs. 50,000 confiscated. A special police staff assisted this department to unearth hoarded cotton cloth.

Companies

The total number of companies working increased from 1,908 to 2,141. During the year 296 companies were registered, 65 were either struck off or wound up and 2 were restored to the register by High Court. The new registrations had an authorised capital of Rs. 1,015 lakhs and included 3 banks, 82 loan and chit companies, 102 trading and manufacturing concerns, 25 mills and presses and 40 transit and transport companies. Compared with 1944, the increase in registration was marked under "Loan and chit," "Mills and Presses" including oil and textiles and "Hotels and theatres." "Loan and chit" companies include 64 pawn-brokers who have converted themselves into Joint Stock Companies. Of the new companies, nine were Textile mills, six were for the manufacture of vegetable ghee, seven were oil mills, one was a rice mill, one a timber mill and one a paper mill. The largest flotations were the "Radios and Electricals, Limited" and the "Textile Machinery Corporation, Limited" (Coimbatore), each with a capital of Rs. 50 lakhs.

The large increase in registrations was due to the cessation of hostilities and the raising of the limit of capital issue without sanction under Rule 94-A of the Defence of India Rules from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1 lakh, and in the case of companies other than Banks, Insurance or Provident Insurance Societies to Rs. 5 lakhs. The Central Government sanctioned capital issues to the extent of Rs. 643 lakhs by 149 companies in this Province.

Industrial Labour

The number of factories on the registers, working under the Indian Factories Act increased by 271 to 3,160 and the increased work necessitated the creation of three more circles. The Factory Inspectors carried out 4,552 inspections and considerable attention was devoted to the industrial labour welfare work as a result of which several factories started canteens, creches, dispensaries, etc. Employees were granted dearness allowance and liberal bonuses. Rules with regard to the grant of holidays with pay in factories were published and Government ordered the enforcement of Weekly Holidays Act in the City of Madras and in other

municipalities of the Province from 1st January 1946. The provisions of the Madras Maternity Benefit Act were generally complied with. Exemptions from the statutory limit of working hours were granted to rice mills in 7 surplus districts and in 58 other cases. There were 17 cases of fire in the factories which caused damage to property worth nearly five lakhs of rupees.

There were 66 labour disputes including six in tanning factories, seven in textile mills and nine by scavengers. In most cases the dispute was with regard to pay and dearness allowance. Government directed that a trade dispute between the management of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Madras, and its workers be referred to an Adjudicator. Seventy-one trade unions were registered during the year and the registrations of five were cancelled, leaving 215 unions on the register.

The Government of India set up a commission known as the Claims Commission to deal with claims made by or against the Armed Forces arising out of accidents, training or manœuvres, etc. Government constituted a committee to formulate proposals for providing housing accommodation for Government servants and industrial labourers in the City of Madras.

CHAPTER XI—RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

Co-operation

Years of Progress

	1914–15.	1924–25.	1934–35.	1938–39.	1944–45.
Total number of co-operative societies	1,600	11,141	13,453	13,759	15,724
Total membership ..	119,461	690,740	892,275	1,042,000	1,742,506
Number of Land Mortgage Banks and Central Banks	10	33	108	142	149
Number of non-agricultural societies	103	1,312	1,446	1,773	3,452
Number of agricultural credit societies other than Land Mortgage Banks	1,438	9,162	11,492	11,390	10,792
			Rupees in lakhs.		
Total cost to Government.	1·38	6·67	11·17	13·81	22·03
Total working capital of all societies except Land Mortgage Banks.	1,42·10	9·87	15,52·80	18,59·03	28,18·85
Total working capital of all Land Mortgage Banks	..	..	1,19·04	4,11·87	5,97·11
Working capital of the Central Banks and Land Mortgage Banks.	59·35	3,44·67	6,30·17	9,78·12	14,47·44
Working capital of the urban societies ..	18·20	1,65·56	3,71·16	4,85·20	10,62·51
Total amount of loans outstanding against members of all societies except Land Mortgage Banks	1,29·39	8,07·87	10,37·89	13,18·39	13,64·38
Loans outstanding against members of urban societies	71·39	1,31·56	2,95·20	3,73·61	3,59·82
Loans outstanding against members of rural societies other than Land Mortgage Banks.	58·09	3,12·27	3,66·21	4,21·93	3,59·81

The year 1945, the forty-first year of the working of co-operative movement in this Province, was one of all round progress. The total number of co-operative societies was 15,671 as against 15,643 last year and 13,138 in 1939. The enormous increase in their number and working capital during the war period has been largely due to the formation of a large number of co-operative stores and weavers and milk supply societies. The conditions created by the war gave a stimulus to the growth of the co-operative movement in general and the expansion on non-credit side in particular was remarkable. With the rise in the price of agricultural produce, banks and rural societies realized most of their longstanding arrears and the percentage of overdues to demand was the lowest on record. The consumers' co-operative movement spread even to remote villages and the public have come to look upon the stores societies as excellent agencies for equitable

distribution of foodstuffs and other essential articles. The Central Co-operative Institute, Madras, trained departmental inspectors and the four mufassal institutes trained co-operative supervisors and others.

The Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank was able to meet the increased demands of the District Co-operative Central Banks. The general confidence in the Provincial Bank is evidenced by the fact that in spite of its low rate of interest, it attracted large deposits and earned a net profit of Rs. 2·42 lakhs. The Bank gave subsidies to an extent of Rs. 39,000 to the Central Banks for consolidation of existing societies and for promotion of new ones. All the 30 Central Banks worked at a profit and the enormous increase in their business was due to the issue of loans to the extent of Rs. 907 lakhs to co-operative stores. The average percentage of balance to demand was less than 7 and is the lowest for the past thirty yoars. A few Central Banks in the Rayalaseema did not work well on account of the bad agricultural conditions and a special committee was appointed to suggest improvements. The Madras Central Land Mortgage Bank issued loans to the extent of Rs. 28 lakhs and its business showed signs of improvement.

The marketing and sale societies were adversely affected by the control of prices and movement of produce; but they assisted agriculturists by supplying manure including compost manufactured by local bodies, improved varieties of seed, cart tyres and axles. The five Marketing Federations bought produce worth Rs. 26·5 lakhs and processed almost half of it before sale. The scheme of controlled credit in which the borrower in a rural society is obliged to market his produce through the co-operative sale society was in operation in 19 districts. About 35,000 acres of land were brought under the scheme and produce valued at Rs. 30 lakhs was sold through sales societies. The Madras Provincial Co-operative Marketing Society sold fruits produced by the Fruit Growers' Societies, products of cottage industries and other surplus goods from the Producers' Societies.

The Primary Consumers' Societies further increased to 1,286 as against 1,249 last year and 85 in 1939. They sold goods worth Rs. 1,166 lakhs and maintained 786 ration depots with 3½ lakhs of ration card-holders. The twenty-one District Wholesale Stores did extensive business on account of their participation in the schemes of procurement, rationing and distribution. Their total purchases and sales amounted to Rs. 925 lakhs and Rs. 981 lakhs, respectively, compared to Rs. 774 lakhs and Rs. 734 lakhs in the previous year. In some districts, the Wholesale Stores were appointed as the sole procuring agency for the entire district.

The Weavers' Co-operative Societies increased in number and contributed (to some extent) towards easing the cloth shortage and keeping down the level of prices. These societies increased from 174 in 1939 to 340. The Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society is the apex organization for primary weavers'

societies. It undertook the supply of yarn and other raw materials to weavers' societies and marketed their finished products through its emporiums. Besides this, it maintained three experimental factories to evolve designs and improve the quality of handloom cloth, an up-to-date screen printing factory and four dye factories. Distribution of hydros to dyers and dye-houses and of artificial silk at controlled rates was also undertaken.

Another outstanding feature was the expanded activity of co-operative milk-supply unions and societies. In some measure they relieved the problem of urban milk-supply, besides meeting the requirements of the Defence Services. There were 20 milk-supply unions and 237 societies as against 6 unions and 51 societies in 1939, and they supplied milk worth Rs. 72·5 lakhs. The milk-supply unions supplied almost all the requirements of the State hospitals and the Army in areas where they were operating, besides meeting a substantial portion of the public demand. To encourage this movement, Government allotted Rs. 3 lakhs for the grant of interest-free loans and another sum of Rs. 50,000 as an ordinary loan for the purchase of lorries. In the City of Madras, Government sanctioned a scheme to increase the supply of milk by 6,000 Madras measures a day by the organization of a number of feeder societies in the City and in the villages of Chingleput district. A special staff was sanctioned and by the end of the year, 33,000 lbs. or 8,250 measures a day of milk were being obtained. Another notable event was the sanction of free supply of milk in Madras City to priority consumers, i.e., children up to 2 years and expectant and nursing mothers among the poor.

Several schemes were formulated to provide employment for ex-servicemen on a co-operative basis. The schemes related mainly to the organization of co-operative land colonization societies, labour contract societies, co-operative workshops and training and the employment of ex-servicemen in co-operative institutions. Eighty men with war service were trained in co-operation at the Coimbatore Institute. Government sanctioned the formation of labour contract co-operative societies which are expected to employ about 6,000 men.

Rural Amenities

The District Periodical Conferences of Gazetted Officers, Presidents of District Boards and other non-officials met as usual under the chairmanship of Collectors to discuss matters of general importance affecting the district. The work of rural reconstruction made some progress. The Government of India grant sanctioned for this purpose was utilized for the improvement of rural water-supply, rural sanitation, village communications and for the encouragement and development of co-operative and sale societies and societies for the consolidation of holdings. There were 2,333 rural water-supply works either completed or in progress and a sum of about Rs. 7·75 lakhs was spent on them from the beginning

of the grant. Also about Rs. 2·5 lakhs were contributed by villagers or the panchayats. Seven hundred and thirty-five sanitation works and 850 village communication works were either completed or in progress. Over Rs. 1 lakh were disbursed for the encouragement and development of loan and sale co-operative societies. A number of other rural water-supply works were also completed under the Provincial Comprehensive Scheme. For the duration of war, Government suspended grants of loans for relief of rural indebtedness.

Twenty-three Land Colonization Co-operative Societies for the landless poor were working in eight districts, viz., Salem, Kistna, West Godavari, Coimbatore, Kurnool, North Arcot, Tanjore and Chingleput. Special Agricultural Demonstrators, trained in co-operation, were supervising the schemes. The general financial position of the societies was reported to be sound. The administrative control of these societies was transferred to the Co-operative department from 1st July 1945.

Agriculture

Further progress was made in agricultural education by the opening of a second Agricultural College at Bapatla and the admission of 96 additional students in each of the Colleges at Coimbatore and Bapatla. To educate the ryots in improved methods of agriculture, the publication of two journals in Tamil and Telugu was commenced and they were distributed in the villages free of cost. Large-scale exhibitions were arranged during the Mahamaham festival in Tanjore and on the occasion of fruit shows at Trichinopoly and Madras. Nearly 2,500 lectures on agricultural propaganda were delivered. Four batches of servicemen underwent training in general agriculture, bee-keeping, etc., at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore.

Paddy seed farms were working in 14 districts with a view to multiply pure seeds and about 19,146 tons of paddy seeds were distributed to ryots as against 5,194 tons last year. Extension of the area under improved strains, liberal and judicious manuring, reduction of seed rate in the nurseries and economic planting were some of the improvements advocated. Two new paddy strains Pattambi 21 and Co. 23 were released after successful conclusion of yield trials. The former is suitable for second crop in South Malabar and the latter is a short duration cosmopolitan variety suitable for Coimbatore and Chingleput districts. Four hybrid strains were found to be highly resistent to paddy blast, which in recent years has become a devastating menace in important paddy tracts.

Seed farms were also arranged for millets and all successful strains were multiplied and distributed. Among the irrigated sorghums a new strain of 'mottai vellai' cholam was tried in Dharapuram taluk and yielded nearly 25 per cent more than the local variety.

In Coimbatore district cotton strain Co. 2, Co. 920 and X. 4463 were very popular and the area under these was increased. Strain Co. 2 has completely replaced the original Cambodia in Madura and Coimbatore districts. Seed farms were arranged in the cotton growing districts and 12,292 tons of improved strains of seeds were distributed. The total area occupied by the improved strains of cotton was 3·3 lakhs of acres. The compulsory restriction on the cultivation of short staple varieties of cotton resulted in a reduction of 26 per cent in cotton acreage of the Province. The record of X. 7682 has been so far consistent and steady in all the district trials and constitutes a definite improvement over Co. 4 in quality, staple and duration. The association of ragi with cotton proved to be more remunerative than pure Cambodia.

Disease-free sets were distributed to sugarcane growers and instructions were given in better methods of planting, better types of furnaces for boiling the juice and the advantage of using good mills for crushing. Thirty-two varieties of sugarcane including four bamboo hybrids were studied. Co. 449 recorded the maximum yield of nearly 47 tons of cane per acre.

Work on pulses was continued and a number of selected plant cultures were sown for trial.

Research work on oil seeds was continued with the object of evolving superior strains and also to determine the best cultural and manurial practices. Trials of improved strains in groundnut showed that AH. 25 was best suited to Coimbatore and AH. 68 to Anantapur district. The demand for groundnut seed increased considerably owing to the greater consumption of groundnut oil and cake. Performances of the improved strains like AH. 25, 32 and 698 were much appreciated by the ryots and the demand for supply of these superior quality seeds was keen.

The work on almost all the aspects of fruit and vegetable preservation was carried out at Kodur. Sathgudi trees budded on gajanimma in their eighth year of orchard life have successfully resisted the stem and root diseases. The year's observations confirmed the precocious and productive tendencies of sathgudi trees budded on woodapple. Three seedling progenies of mangoes Nos. 7, 11 and 15 produced exceptionally high quality fruit and are likely to prove valuable additions. The coconut growers were advised on the proper spacing and layout of plants, regular and systematic inter-cultivation and growing of catch crops and green manure crops. The Nilgiris Vegetables Supply Scheme to the Army made very satisfactory progress and the target was raised to 1,500 tons a month. The Central Vegetable Seed Depot in Madras continued to distribute a large quantity of vegetable seeds. As a result of persistent propaganda, the area under vegetables was substantially increased and in the Nilgiris district alone the area was 23,500 acres. In the Araku Valley potatoes and root crops were grown and cinchona trees were raised on a small area. In the districts of Nellore and in the Circars, H.S. 9, a superior type of Virginia tobacco, was extremely popular.

Observations made at the Irrigation Research Station, Siruguppa, confirmed the view that under heavy and light irrigation and under fallow or cropped conditions there was no upward movement of water or soluble salts in the first three feet of soil profile both in respect of deep and shallow soils. Investigations on soils, manures, plant chemistry, soil biology, food chemistry and evolving new strains of paddy, cholam, etc., and fundamental studies on the origin and geo-chemistry of black and red soils were continued. A rapid soil survey of the area under the Gandikota project was made. The influence of cultural practice on soil tilth was studied on black and red soils at the Cotton Breeding Station, Coimbatore. Experiments were continued to assess the relative merits of producing farm-yard manure in pits with or without cover and in heaps. It was observed that judged by the nitrogen content there was little to choose between these systems. Pot experiments to study the influence of irrigation water on sugarcane juice indicated that the salinity in irrigation water induced an increase in the chlorine and nitrogen content of the juice. Pot experiments to find out a better variety of potato for the Kotagiri area were carried out. The study of the production of rubber was continued. The possibility of reducing the manufacturing cost of Agar and improving its quality were studied.

Various insect pests and plant diseases were studied. Of the different treatments for control of redgram pod borers, dusting tobacco powder mixed with ashes and spraying crude oil emulsion gave good results. Trials with DDT and 666 against stored grain pests showed that 0·006 per cent mixture by weight gave cent per cent mortality of pests in five to seven days and the effect lasted 135 days. A survey of potato crops on the Nilgiris showed that several virus diseases are present on the Nilgiris and measures were undertaken to control the disease and to prevent it from spreading to other areas. There was a continuous demand for Agri-Tree Killer solution, a product of the Mycological laboratory and a sufficient stock was maintained.

Propaganda was carried on among ryots on the importance of feeding cattle with green fodder or silage and a demonstration of silage making was conducted. Large quantities of seed were made available to the ryots to grow more fodder crops. In order to increase the supply of manure, composting of all kinds of farm and habitation waste materials was continued and several municipalities and panchayat boards took up the work. Oil cakes and other manures available within the Province were harnessed by banning exports and a Zonal Scheme was drawn up.

Market surveys of chillies, sheep and goats, cattle, etc., were completed for the Civil Supplies Department and the Government of India. A report was prepared on the various aspects of the production and marketing of eggs, poultry, fish, milch and beef cattle, fresh vegetables, etc., for the Board of Revenue. Grading

of oranges, eggs, fruit products and limes in certain areas was continued. A new system of grading cigarette tobacco for export to the Middle East was introduced. Under the Rice Mills Licensing Order, extra polishing of rice was prohibited in the interests of food nutrition. Officers of the Agricultural Department inspected various rice mills and worked on the analysis of samples and methods of improving the quality of hulled paddy.

Arrangements were made for the manufacture and supply to ryots through the Agricultural Depots of ploughs, agricultural implements, better tools and bullock power crushes at controlled prices. At the Government Malt Factory, Coimbatore, malt food and malt extract with shark liver oil were produced using cholam as the basic material. Malt refuse available here was tried as a cattle food with good results. An experiment was started to remove the high acidity in ordinary quality market ghee and coconut oil by the use of quick lime. The Government also sanctioned the installation of a pilot plant for manufacturing yeast at Coimbatore.

Veterinary

With the sanction of nine posts of District Veterinary Officers, every district, except the Nilgiris, had a District Veterinary Officer. A special Propaganda Unit consisting of a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and two artists was formed. Sixty-one students joined the Madras Veterinary College and 27 joined the Stockmen-Compounders' Course. Government sanctioned scholarships of Rs. 30 per mensem each up to a maximum of 30 students in each class from 1946. Sufficient quantities of biological products were manufactured at the Serum Institute and the Madras Veterinary College. One of the serious obstacles to the development of poultry is the prevalence of Ranikhet disease and the production of a vaccine for this disease, evolved at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, was started on a laboratory scale at the Madras Veterinary College. Study of cattle, sheep, goat and poultry diseases included investigations on Tuberculosis and Johne's disease of cattle, Anthrax and Circling disease of sheep, Ranikhet disease and Pox of poultry.

Six new Veterinary institutions were opened during the year making a total of 136, besides the 170 touring billets. Fifty-one municipalities and 36 panchayats utilized the services of the local Veterinary Surgeons for meat inspection work. The restrictions on the export of cattle, sheep, goats, poultry and eggs outside the Province without permits and on the slaughter of cattle fit for work and breeding continued. This Province used to import 57,000 head of work cattle from Mysore annually during the pre-war years, but this ceased with the imposition of a ban on exports by the Government of Mysore. The Mysore Government have now agreed to allow the export of 10,500 head of cattle per annum to this Province.

CHAPTER XII—PUBLIC WORKS

Years of Progress

	1914–15. RS. IN LAKHS.	1924–25. RS. IN LAKHS.	1934–35. RS. IN LAKHS.	1944–45. RS. IN LAKHS.
Expenditure on Public Works including buildings and roads	76	61	58	92
Expenditure on irrigation works	88	104	142	179
Revenue from irrigation works	264	283	321	378
Area charged as irrigated in lakhs of acres	71·8	71·1	73·0	84·5
Percentage return on productive works	9·1	11·7	7·6	8·6

The Public Works Department

General, Buildings and Defence

The two temporary Circles, viz., the Aerodrome Circle and the Anantapur Circle, continued during the year. The works for the Royal Navy at Tambaram and Coimbatore and all the other works undertaken for the Royal Air Force and the Army were completed satisfactorily. The maintenance of Royal Air Force air-fields and works, which had hitherto been attended to by the Public Works Department was transferred during the year to the Military Engineering Service.

Construction of the Quinine Factory in Anamalais was taken up and arrangements were made to obtain the necessary machinery. The construction of 47 godowns in Coimbatore and Vizagapatam for the Central Government and 25 godowns in Vizagapatam for the Provincial Government was nearing completion, while 12 other godowns were built and handed over to the Provincial Civil Supplies Department. The accommodation for Government offices in the City was improved by the construction of three blocks of buildings adjacent to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital. They are now occupied by the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce. Work in connection with the Land Colonization Schemes in the Araku Valley, Wynaad and Gudalur was in progress. A programme of civil works to be taken up in 1945–46 and in the subsequent five years was drawn up and steps were taken to put it into operation.

No new water-supply or drainage schemes were put into operation during the year, but detailed plans and estimates were prepared for two Municipal Water-Supply Schemes and six Municipal Drainage Schemes at an estimated cost of about Rs. 34

lakhs. In connection with the Post-War Development Schemes, a revised programme was prepared for water-supply and drainage schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 25·6 crores to be spread over a period of 20 years with expenditure limited to Rs. 3·7 crores for the first five years. Nineteen out of the twenty water-supply and drainage schemes which were deferred for the duration of the war were ordered to be taken up for execution.

Communications

The Communications branch of the Public Works Department continued to function and new special Roads Divisions were formed at Chicacole, Adoni, Ongole and Palghat. Due to the continual increase in work, the Special Roads Circle was bifurcated into the East and West Roads Circles. Proposals were drawn up for the formation of a Highways Department and a special staff was sanctioned to organize the new department and to scrutinize and co-ordinate post-war project schemes.

Broadcasting

The Provincial Broadcasting Department completed its seventh year of existence. Sixteen rural and 18 Municipal radio sets were installed, bringing the total number of rural sets to 498 and of Municipal sets to 158. Forty Lease-lend radio sets were supplied to the National War Front Organization. Twenty-five battery-operated and 26 main AC/DC Lease-lend sets were obtained from the Government of India free of cost to meet future demands. Government accepted the proposal of convening a periodic conference of the heads of various departments to discuss ways and means of improving rural programmes. The annual maintenance charges of rural sets recoverable from the panchayat boards were reduced to Rs. 90. With this reduction and the improvement anticipated in the matter of supply, it is hoped that a large number of panchayat boards will take advantage of the opportunity to instal a radio set.

Electricity

Though progress was made during the year, it was handicapped by war conditions. Restrictions on new extensions, freezing orders to limit any increase in the connected load of consumers, staggering of loads to minimize the demands on power-houses, rationing of power, surcharges and the difficulty in procuring equipment and labour continued to hinder development. There were 81 electrical undertakings in the Province, 36 managed by local authorities and 45 by private companies. A scheme for the levy of a war costs surcharge by the Government undertakings was sanctioned.

The following Post-War Development Schemes costing about Rs. 14 crores were approved by the Post-War "Industries" Sub-Committee :—

	Estimated cost. RS. IN LAKHS.
Machkand Hydro-electric Scheme	492 (initially)
Plant Extensions at Papanasam	39
Plant Extensions at Pykara	205 (initially)
Plant Extensions at Madras	216
Mettur-Madras Interconnection Schemes	68
Bezwada-Rajahmundry-Samalkot Extensions ..	* 67
Thermal Stations at Hagari and Nellore .. .	69
Pericard Hydro-electric Scheme	345
	1,434

* Sanctioned as an advance construction of Machkand Hydro-Electric Scheme.

Though the Machkand Hydro-electric Scheme was approved by the Government, sanction to proceed with the work is pending conclusion of negotiations with the Orissa Government. The final stage of the Pykara Plant Extensions costing about Rs. 2·055 crores rising to Rs. 3·096 crores by 1957 was sanctioned by Government, but had to be postponed on account of the difficulty in obtaining the high pressure pipes required for the scheme. Instead, it was decided to proceed with the Moyar Hydro-electric Scheme costing Rs. 1·819 crores initially, rising to Rs. 2·652 crores by 1952, and the preliminary work was started. Proposals for extensions to the Basin Bridge Power Station were sanctioned at an initial cost of Rs. 110·25 lakhs rising to Rs. 244·17 lakhs within ten years. A scheme for Ceded Districts Grid with a bulk supply from the Jog Hydro-electric Scheme was under preparation.

The first stage of the Papanasam Scheme was completed in June 1945 when the third 7250 K.V.A. Unit was put into operation. The Papanasam-Shencottah line was completed and the construction of the Madura-Koilpatti line was in progress. The total connected load on the system was about 24,000 K.W. The second stage of the Papanasam Plant Extension was commenced during the year. Throughout the year, the water conditions at Mettur were unsatisfactory and the Pykara System afforded as much relief as possible. At the end of the year the situation was so grave that the possibility of closing down the Mettur Power House was seriously under consideration. The total connected load on the Mettur System was 58,500 K.W. Proposals for the supply of

power to Kuppam and the South Kolar Gold Fields were sanctioned. There has been rapid development of agricultural and small industrial loads under this system. The work in connection with Mettur IV Unit Extension was almost completed. The Madras-Mettur Interconnection Scheme was sanctioned and the preliminary work started. The Pykara System continued to function satisfactorily and the total connected load was about 65,500 K.W. Extension of power to the West Coast was under progress, and Calicut is expected to receive supply before April 1946. The three stations at Vizagapatam, Bezwada and Cocanada under the Andhra Power System continued to function satisfactorily. A scheme for the extension of the Vizagapatam Power House was sanctioned.

Irrigation

The south-west monsoon was a thorough failure in the catchment areas of the Mettur and Periyar Reservoirs. The north-east monsoon was however vigorous in the Periyar area, but not so good in the Mettur area. The severe cyclone and tidal wave in the coastal areas of the Godavari and Kistna districts caused heavy damage to crops. Standing crops on 100,000 acres in the Godavari Western Delta and 12,600 acres in Godavari Eastern Delta were completely damaged, while those on 6,500 acres in the Kistna Delta were partially submerged. To wash away the salinity in the affected areas, heavy rush supplies were sent down the canals and channels to make the lands fit for cultivation. To give relief to the damaged areas, it was proposed to supply water for second crop to the maximum possible extent and to throw open such areas to cultivation earlier than the usual date. In the Cauvery Delta System several channels in the Grand Anicut Canal Division were remodelled. The Mettur Reservoir was opened for irrigation on the 25th May when the level was 93·6 feet. As the freshes received were disappointingly weak, the level of the reservoir for successive days of the season was the lowest on record since the project began to function. Limited storage had to be used economically by putting the rivers on turns. The water level went down steadily and there was a danger of its going below the minimum level required for the generation of electric power. The supply of water for irrigation was considered to be of paramount importance and so it was decided by the Government that even if it involved closing down the Mettur Power House for some months, the existing supply of water must be so distributed as to save as much as possible of the rice crop in Tanjore Delta.

In the Godavari Delta System an extent of 61,100 acres in the Eastern Delta was thrown open for second crop cultivation under the Localization Rules. An additional area of 10,800 acres was opened for second crop cultivation to make up the deficit in the Nagaram Island due to the collapse of the Gannavaram aqueduct and to give relief to the areas affected by the floods under the

Tulyabhaga drain. In the Godavari Western Delta, second crop cultivation was allowed on 154,000 acres which exceeded by 10,000 acres the limit fixed under the rules. In the Central Delta, out of 19,470 acres only about 7,100 acres were cultivated as the ryots were afraid that the supply of water would be inadequate on account of the collapse of the Gannavaram Aqueduct which was under reconstruction. In the Kistna Delta System the freshes were received late this year and on the 15th July 1945 the maximum flood level was 13 feet over the crest of the anicut. The Kistna East Bank Canal was re-opened as usual on the 15th May and kept open till the end of November as the ryots had raised long crops instead of the scheduled short crops.

In the Periyar System in spite of the failure of south-west monsoon it was possible to raise successfully the kodai crop both in the Periyar Delta and in the Cumbum Valley by resorting to careful regulation and a system of turns. The late onset of the north-east monsoon helped transplantation of the kalam crop which was in progress by the end of the year. The general scarcity of water in the delta necessitated the use of Periyar water for drinking purposes in the Madura Municipal limits for 32 days.

In connection with the Tungabhadra Project a special staff of one Superintending Engineer and four Executive Engineers with nine Subdivisional Officers was sanctioned. A Special Officer of the grade of a Collector together with the requisite revenue staff was also sanctioned for investigation of the revenue aspects of the scheme. Preliminary arrangements for surveys and final setting, etc., were made. The substitution of the aqueduct at Hagari river crossing in place of a regulator will reduce the length of the canal by four miles and result in a saving of about Rs. 30 lakhs. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation went on deputation to the United Kingdom and the United States of America to purchase machinery for the Tungabhadra Project and to obtain expert advice on the type of foundation to be adopted for the Ramapadasagar Project (Polavaram), the investigation of which was in progress.

The Government ordered that as an experiment contour bunding work should be done on 25,000 acres of land in the Ceded districts and the investigation was begun. Proposals for the colonization of demobilized soldiers by providing irrigation and drainage facilities in the Bhimavaram, Razole, Amalapuram, Divi, Repalle, Bapatla, Nandikotkur and Kavali taluks were under consideration. The construction of laboratory buildings and other connected works for the Research Station, Poondi, was completed and experiments on hydraulic models, chemical analysis of water, canal drops and other items were carried out.

CHAPTER XIII—COMMUNITIES ELIGIBLE FOR HELP BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The work of improving the social and economic conditions of eligible communities continued to be under the supervision of the Collectors subject to guidance of the Commissioner of Labour in matters of policy. The Commissioner of Labour and the Collectors of the 14 districts in which special labour staff worked were assisted by the Provincial Advisory Board and the District Advisory Committees respectively. The ameliorative work consisted of provision of house-sites, opening of schools, grant of scholarships, stipends, etc., maintenance of hostels and supply of midday meals, provision of sanitary amenities such as pathways and burial grounds, provision for supply of good drinking water and assignment of land for cultivation.

The total number of labour schools increased during the year from 1,082 to 1,111 and about 60,000 pupils belonging to the eligible communities were studying in them. Government sanctioned a further expenditure of Rs. 6·75 lakhs on the extension of the scheme for providing free midday meals and about 60,000 pupils of the eligible communities were benefited. This concession was utilized to the fullest extent with the result that the strength and attendance in the schools increased considerably. Definite improvement in the health and appearance of the pupils was also noticed. Eight labour hostels were run by the department and a sum of Rs. 62,600 was allotted for their maintenance. Over 2,050 boarding grants were sanctioned this year at the rate of Rs. 10 or Rs. 12 per mensem for each of the pupils of eligible communities staying in various boarding homes or hostels. Six additional boarding grants were sanctioned to six college students. A sum of Rs. 11,300 was allotted to help pupils of eligible communities to purchase books, clothes, etc., and to secure exemptions from the payment of examination fees.

The total number of scholarships sanctioned for ordinary education was 6,473 as against 6,682 last year, but the number of residential scholarships granted for Arts and Professional courses increased from 369 to 402. In addition, 31 scholarships for midwifery training and 2 scholarships to students studying in the Agricultural College, Bapatla, were sanctioned. The Commissioner was empowered to grant 10 scholarships for compounders' training course, 6 for sericultural training and 3 for B.T. or B.Ed. courses.

The provision of civic amenities and sanitary improvements to the cheris in Madras City progressed satisfactorily and an allotment of Rs. 30,000 was provided for this purpose. A proposal to substitute tiled roofs in place of the thatched roofs of the huts

in the Brislee Nagar Settlement was under consideration. Sanction was accorded for the construction of 37 model huts in Tondiarpet at a cost of about Rs. 75,000. Government agreed to write off a sum of Rs. 33,640 being the arrears of a loan due from the occupants of the huts in Paddisonpuram, Perambur, and approved the proposal to take over the tenements, repair them at Government cost and then let them out at a small monthly rental of Rs. 1-8-0 per hut.

Reclamation of Criminal Tribes

The administration of the Criminal Tribes Settlements and the Kallar, Korava and Yenadi Reclamation centres under the charge of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and C.I.D., Madras, was satisfactory. The administrative efficiency in the settlements was increased noticeably by appointment of additional staff and regular inspections by superior officers. To encourage settlers in the Bitragunta Reformatory Settlement, Government sanctioned the remission of six weeks for every year of good conduct and also a further reduction in the minimum period of internment in deserving cases. Agriculture continued to be the main occupation of the settlers, and reclamation of more land was undertaken. In Chintaladevi Settlement, irrigation was improved by the excavation of a channel. The question of providing more wells and sinking artesian wells was also considered. Additional funds were sanctioned to improve gardening operations on an extensive scale in the Bitragunta Reformatory Settlement. Various cottage industries were undertaken in the Settlements. A large number of Police dhurries and chaplis were produced in the Aziznagar Settlement. Weaving industry was sanctioned in the Siddhapuram Settlement with an annual allotment of Rs. 4,000. In Sitanagaram Settlement, contracts were undertaken for quarrying stone for the Public Works Department. The question of weaving cloth for convict uniforms was examined. The match industry at Chintaladevi is not yet a success, but measures to improve its condition were under consideration.

The education of children continued to be satisfactory and the children in all the Settlement Schools were supplied with midday meals, clothes, books, soap and oil free of cost. For the Kallar Schools of Madura district, 24 additional teachers were sanctioned and the teaching of English from the fourth standard was taken up in selected schools. Sitanagaram Settlement has a resident doctor and the other settlements were visited by the medical officers in the neighbourhood. Compounders were sanctioned for three settlements and a resident midwife for the Bitragunta Reformatory Settlement. A maternity ward was opened in the Sitanagaram Settlement. The health of the settlers was on the whole satisfactory.

CHAPTER XIV—CIVIL SUPPLIES

The outstanding feature in the administration of the Civil Supplies Department was the vigorous attempt made to eliminate blackmarketing and infuse a sense of healthy respect for the various measures taken against "Hoarding and Profiteering". With regard to the staple foodgrains, the Province was divided into surplus, self-sufficient or deficit districts. An elaborate survey of the production and requirements of each district was made and a system of movement from surplus to deficit districts was worked out, with the object of assuring adequate supplies at reasonable prices in the deficit districts. The other articles required by the public were made available through licensed dealers wherever possible and severe action was taken whenever infringement of any Control Order was brought to the notice of the authorities.

There was a fall in the prices of foodgrains during the year, but the prices of commercial products registered a rise. The index numbers of the average wholesale prices were as follows:—

(Base: Prices in the week ending 21st August 1939 : 100.)

Half-year ending.	Food-grains.	Commercial products.	Half-year ending.	Food-grains.	Commercial products.
December 1940 ..	119	96	June 1943	236	229
June 1941	122	95	December 1943 ..	263	257
December 1941 ..	140	114	June 1944	249	254
June 1942	142	123	December 1944 ..	243	249
December 1942 ..	207	187	June 1945	238	259

The trend of index numbers of the cost of living for the working classes in Madras City and in eight mufassal centres since August 1939 is shown below:—

Month.	Madras City.	Vizagapatam.	Ellore.	Bellary.	Cuddalore.	Trichinopoly.	Madura.	Coimbatore.	Calicut.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
August 1939 ..	98	102	101	96	.04	103	97	102	103
January 1942 ..	117	121	120	127	118	121	110	118	129
December 1942..	158	172	175	155	172	171	167	174	180
December 1943..	189	220	213	226	198	195	210	213	228
December 1944..	209	219	218	214	221	208	205	218	237
March 1945 ..	224	224	232	215	230	232	221	222	260
September 1945.	226	224	267	224	237	232	227	240	258
November 1945.	225	228	278	236	238	247	240	238	259

The index was compiled by dividing the various items of expenditure into five main groups, viz., food, fuel and lighting, clothing, rent and miscellaneous and assigning weights to each item in proportion to its relative importance in an average low-paid employee's family budget.

Control of Civil Supplies

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, who is a Member of the Board of Revenue, continued to control the procurement, distribution and movement of foodstuffs and other civil supplies. Subject to the general control of the Commissioner, the Provincial Controller of Food Rationing assisted by two Deputy Controllers was in charge of "rationing." Under the Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 47,131 licences were issued to dealers. The total cost of the Civil Supplies establishment was estimated at Rs. 72 lakhs for the year 1945–46.

Assistance by the Government of India.—The All-India Scheme for procurement of supplies for the deficit Provinces and States continued to be in force. This Province, which is deficit in rice and millets, was allotted quotas under the Kharif Plan of the Government of India for the distribution of certain major foodgrains. Of the 140,053 tons of rice allotted to this Province, a quantity of 63,750 tons represented either special quotas allotted to meet the deficit of rice in the Province or quotas meant to replace the 34,000 tons of rice supplied by this Province to the Defence Services in 1944–45. The remaining quantity represented quotas allotted in exchange for the supply of an equal quantity to the Travancore, Cochin and Mysore States. The rice coming from Orissa and the Eastern States was sent to the Vizagapatam district, while that from Sind was sent to the Malabar and South Kanara districts. For the present Kharif year, this Province has been allotted 90,000 tons of rice, of which 30,000 tons represents the quantity allotted in replacement of an equal quantity of rice to be supplied to the Defence Services and 30,000 tons in replacement of an equal quantity to be supplied to the Travancore and Cochin States.

Under the Basic Plan, 17,623 tons of millets were imported. As the millet position improved in the Province, 7,315 tons of millets due from Baluchistan and the balance of quotas due from Punjab and the Central Provinces were surrendered. As in the previous year, the imported millets were sold at prices prevailing locally, the resulting loss being borne by the Government. Large quantities of old millets deteriorated in quality and instructions were issued to have them cleaned at Government expense and disposed of at reduced rates. Wheat and pulses of different varieties were imported under the Kharif and Rabi plans of the Government of India. The entire quantity of wheat was imported from abroad. On account of the All-India wheat shortage, the subsidized sale of wheat in rice deficit districts and the compulsory rationing of wheat in urban areas of the Malabar and South Kanara districts were given up. As a result of these measures, the monthly offtake of wheat, which had gone up to about 9,000 tons, declined to about 4,500 tons. Up to the end of the year, over 27,000 tons

of wheat, 17,000 tons of wheat products and 114,000 tons of bengalgram and other pulses were imported under the Central Government's plans.

Rice.—The procurement of rice for the deficit areas of this Province and for the Defence Services, and for the supply of the 'via Madras quotas' to the Travancore, Cochin and Mysore States continued to be the responsibility of the official purchasing agency. Up to 31st October 1945, this agency had purchased 769,000 tons of rice. Procurement operations continued to be easy till the third quarter of the year in all the surplus purchase areas except in Chidambaram. Exports from this area were stopped from July 1945 and the quotas to be supplied from that area were met from Bezwada. Procurement, however, became difficult in the districts of Chittoor, North Arcot, Trichinopoly and Chingleput and the quotas allotted to these districts for export were either cancelled or transferred to other districts. During October, a cyclone of great intensity caused serious damage to the crops in the East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Guntur districts. Many mills in these areas were put out of action temporarily and processing of rice was delayed. This necessitated a reduction in the export quota from these areas and the transfer of the balance to the Tanjore area. In order to make up the deficiency caused by the cyclone damage in the Circars and the partial failure of the north-east monsoon in some central districts, the Government of India were asked for assistance. They allotted 7,500 tons of rice from Travancore and 22,000 tons of rice from overseas to meet the immediate needs of the deficit districts.

There was considerable improvement in the quality of rice supplied to the deficit districts on account of the introduction of standard specifications for acceptance of rice. The system of sanctioning subsidies to meet the extra cost of rice transported by sea to the districts of Malabar and South Kanara continued to be in force. Bezwada was made the chief source for supply of rice to the Defence Services from the middle of the year. The Tenali Grain Purchase area was bifurcated into Tenali (Guntur) and Nellore with a District Supply Officer in charge of each.

In Malabar, the system of compulsory acquisition of the entire local surplus of foodgrains and the district-wide statutory rationing worked satisfactorily. The scheme of intensive procurement of the entire surplus of paddy and millets and informal rationing worked satisfactorily in the districts of Vizagapatam, Ramnad, Coimbatore, Tinnevelly, the Nilgiris and South Kanara. Kollegal taluk in Coimbatore district was excluded from the operation of the scheme and Cuddalore taluk and portions of Tindivanam taluk were included in the scheme later. Under this scheme, the entire surplus available with the ryots after allowance has been made for their domestic, seed and other requirments as determined by the Collector is acquired by the Government through selected purchasing agents. In the surplus districts and also in the Chingleput and

North Arcot districts, the system of ceiling prices for local sales of paddy and rice by the licensees under the Foodgrains Control Order worked satisfactorily.

To obtain the quotas allotted to them, the Grain Purchase Officers accept contracts for the supply of rice from millers at prices not above the ceiling prices. The millers buy paddy from producers at competitive rates having regard to the prices at which they have to supply rice to the Grain Purchase Officers. If sufficient quantities of paddy and rice are not forthcoming, the Grain Purchase Officers requisition paddy and allot it to millers with directions to supply the rice at ceiling prices.

The purchase and distribution of rice in Madras City and in the Vizagapatam and Salem towns continued to be conducted on Government account during 1945.

Millets.—With regard to millets, a Zonal Scheme was drawn up under which the surplus available in certain districts was allotted to specific deficit districts, the allotments being imported by suitable merchants. Up to the end of November 1945, about 7,484 tons of millets were moved in this way. In accordance with the Government of India's policy for the statutory control of the prices of jowar and bajra on an All-India basis, the system of fixing maximum prices was continued. There was no official purchasing agency for procurement of millets in the districts which are surplus in rice. But in districts where the scheme for intensive procurement of paddy or rice was introduced last year, millets were also procured under the same scheme.

Rationing.—During the year statutory rationing was introduced in the panchayat area of Chirala-Perala (Guntur district) and in the Wynaad taluk of the Malabar district. District-wide informal rationing was introduced in all the non-municipal areas of Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Tinnevelly, South Kanara, Ramnad and Vizagapatam districts and Tindivanam and Cuddalore taluks of the South Arcot district. Wheat is a rationed article in all the rationed areas, but the actual purchase of wheat is optional. In South Kanara district, three-fourths of the ration is given in rice with one-eighth in wheat and the other one-eighth in wheat or millets. In Wynaad taluk of the Malabar district, eleven-fourteenths of the ration is given in rice, and three-fourteenths in wheat, while in the rest of that district the ration is ten-fourteenths rice and four-fourteenths wheat. In all other rationed areas of the Province, five-sixths of the ration is given in rice and the balance in wheat or millets. Millets have also been declared to be the chief rationed article in certain areas with reference to the dietary habits of the people of those localities in normal times. In such cases the card holders are classified as rice-eaters and millet-eaters and not more than one-sixth of their ration is issued as rice to millet-eaters.

Sugar and gur.—The Provincial quota of sugar for the year 1944–45 was reduced from 80,000 tons to 72,000 tons. Up to the end of November, 21,298 tons were imported from Northern India and the balance was met by local production. The surcharge of 1½ annas per Imperial maund collected by the Government to cover the risk of loss in transit on all sugar consignments received from outside the Province was reduced to 6 pies per maund. As a result of the measures taken by the Government to ensure the maximum production of sugar in this Province, the local factories produced 50,867 tons of sugar as against 45,697 tons last year. A Provincial Sugarcane Committee was constituted during the year to advise the Government on matters relating to the improvement and development of sugarcane cultivation and marketing its products. The movement of gur was regulated under a Zonal Scheme. A toal quantity of nearly 67,000 tons of gur was allotted by the Sugar Controller for supply from this Province to various other Provinces and States, but only about 45,000 tons were actually exported. The export permits were granted to nominees of the importing area and also to stockists in this Province. The ceiling prices fixed for the export of gur were abolished with effect from 1st November 1945.

Firewood.—Statutory rationing of firewood continued to be in force in Madras City. Early in January 1945 the stock position deteriorated and the scale of rations was reduced by 25 per cent from February to September. An Officer was placed on special duty to investigate new sources and to take immediate steps to augment the supply. The Government also agreed to subsidize the extra cost involved in the purchase and transport of firewood from distant places. By the end of September, the stock position had sufficiently improved to permit the issue of rations at the full scale again. To meet the increased requirements of fuel for the cold weather, the rations were further increased temporarily by 25 per cent during December 1945. Till the end of October, 208,891 tons of firewood were received and 167,519 tons issued. The administration of firewood rationing was separated from rice rationing and was placed under the control of a City Firewood Rationing Officer. The Madras Firewood Restricted Acquisition Order, 1945, was brought into force in the City with a view to prevent hoarding of firewood. The total cost to Government on account of the subsidized supply of firewood to Madras City was estimated at about Rs. 33 lakhs for the year 1945–46. In view of the improvement in the fuel position in Madras, restrictions on the import of charcoal into the City from the neighbouring districts of Nellore, Chittoor, North Arcot and Cuddapah were removed. The position in regard to the supply of firewood in Bezwada, Guntur, Madura and Coimbatore was not quite satisfactory. Arrangements were therefore made to supply firewood to these

places from the Nizam's Dominions, the Nallamalais, the zamin areas in Madura district and Malabar district respectively.

Miscellaneous.—The Drugs Control Order, 1943, the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance, 1943, and the Consumer Goods (Control and Distribution) Order, 1944, were administered by the Commercial Tax Officers under the general control of the Collectors and the Commissioner of Civil Supplies. The Advisory Committees, which were constituted to keep in touch with public opinion and the trade and to enlist their co-operation, functioned satisfactorily. Ceiling prices were fixed in respect of more consumer goods and adequate publicity was given to the prices so fixed. The supply position of consumer goods improved and the desire to hoard stocks on the part of the dealers is tending to disappear.

As the price of sheep, goats and meat rose steeply in the early months of the year, two Orders, viz., The Madras Meat Dealers Control Order, 1945 and the Madras Livestock and Meat (Movement) Control Order, 1945 were issued under the Defence of India Rules. The first Order which has been in force in all municipal areas and a few non-municipal areas provides for the licensing of dealers in notified areas. The other Control Order prohibits the export of sheep or goats or meat outside any district except under a permit. A Zonal Scheme for the purchase of sheep and goats from the surplus to the deficit districts has also been drawn up. A scheme for the procurement of sheep and goats was introduced in the Vizagapatam, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly districts to meet the demands of the Defence Services and the dehydration factories working at Madras and Anantapur.

In order to conserve the available supplies of fresh milk and to relieve the general shortage of milk. "The Madras Milk (Use in Catering Establishments) Control Order, 1945" was issued. This Order prohibits the use of milk in the manufacture for sale of any product such as ice-cream, cream-cake, etc. A plant for reconstituting imported milk products into fluid milk was being erected in Madras City.

The Civil Supplies Transport Unit was strengthened by the addition of 25 lorries. In addition to the eight godowns constructed last year, six more godowns were constructed in Madras City during the year. In different parts of the Vizagapatam district, 25 "Lahore sheds" were under construction. Close attention was paid by the Civil Supplies Department to the movement of foodgrains and to their proper storage.

CHAPTER XV—CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Defence measures were abolished in British Cochin and Arkonam with effect from 1st January 1945 and remained in force in the beginning of the year only in Vizagapatam, Cocanada and the City of Madras. Subsequently the whole province was declared a "White Area" and the entire closure of the civil defence measures was ordered, resulting in the issue of discharge notices to all paid personnel with effect from 1st May 1945. All the offices were closed down leaving a skeleton staff in Madras, Vizagapatam and Cocanada for the disposal of stores and to complete the winding up of the department. Only one camp with a strength of 150 Moplahs was retained to carry out demolition of street shelters, baffle walls, filling up of slit trenches and other works. All the street shelters were demolished and the debris of all except eight was cleared by the end of the year. The Corporation authorities undertook the work of filling up trenches constructed in their land. In December 1945 the premises of Messrs. Prithivi Life Insurance Company collapsed while some alterations were being carried out. The aid of the rescue service was sought and immediately given, resulting in the prompt rescue of 17 casualties from the debris.

In June 1945, Government issued instructions relaxing lighting restrictions excepting those relating to motor car head lights. As a result of the cessation of hostilities, Government finally withdrew all lighting restrictions in October 1945.

On the closure of civil defence measures no effort was spared to secure employment for the discharged personnel. Even while in service vocational training had been given to them. Due to the interest taken by the heads of services and others, many found employment in the defence services and in leading firms of the City. Many drivers were found jobs in the vehicle group of the Army Ordnance while others suitable were transferred to the Madras Fire Services. Some were absorbed in the Ordnance Services at Avadi. Action was taken to absorb the retrenched ministerial servants in other departments such as Fire Services, Madras Port Trust, Rationing and Civil Supplies. Some of the A.R.P. personnel were trained in anti-malarial operations and others deputed to undergo Sanitary Inspectors' Course.

In September 1945 the reception of released Allied civilian internees from the Far East became an important matter in Madras. The remnants of the Civil Defence Services played a very important part in this humanitarian work. The Mobile First Aid Units were used as transport vehicles and the Casualty Officer who was appointed as Medical Adviser to the Lakeside camp

opened a small dispensary to look after sick internees. The Catering Officer was in charge of the welfare work and feeding arrangements.

The Women's A.R.P. Corps was reconstituted to undertake work among women in matters of general social welfare and the name was changed to "Indian Women Civic Corps." In the beginning of the year, there were 42 centres in the city and 18 branches in the mufassal with 6 centres working under each branch. New branches were opened in Salem, Nellore, Ellore and Tinnevelly. All members of the corps co-operated in social service by welfare work in slums, holding classes in cooking, knitting and handicraft, giving useful talks and organizing excursions and many other activities to make homes brighter. Good work was done when there was an outbreak of scabies in the city by helping people to keep themselves clean and providing them with effective ointments made at the Indian Women Civic Corps Centres. Help was also given during the cyclone in Andhra districts. Thus the good work done by the Women's A.R.P. Corps during the dark days of war is being continued into the period of peace.

The Madras Fire Services

Two major changes were inaugurated. Government ordered the organization of a peace-time Fire Service to cover all municipal towns thus making a total of 84 towns to be protected, which under normal industrial development will prove of inestimable value to the province. For this purpose three regional headquarters were opened, viz., Central, Western and Northern Regions each under the charge of a Chief Regional Fire Officer. New sections were opened in 12 municipalities. Besides this, the final scheme of 28 fire stations in Madras City was completed but due to the cessation of hostilities 7 were evacuated and the appliances were transferred to the peace-time stations. The other major change was the Government's acceptance of the full responsibility for protection of the Madras Harbour, during the most critical period of its existence from a high fire risk point of view. That this action was justified is evidenced by the fact that one major military operation and several minor ones were launched without serious interference by fire, despite the fact that 35 fires ashore and afloat occurred during that period.

The Fire Service attained a standard of efficiency which is very gratifying in view of its short history. Successful efforts were made to implement existing equipment and appliances to a 100 per cent state of preparedness. Important items of equipment received during the year included an additional Ajax 55 feet "Fire Escapes," 38 chassis to be converted to Mobile Tank Units and 2 floating crafts equipped with four powerful pumps with the entire ancillary equipment.

During the year, the Fire Service attended to 1,308 fire calls including 42 false alarms. Of the 1,261 actual fires, only 61 were serious. The property lost by fire was estimated at Rs. 2·4 lakhs and that at risk in these fires at nearly Rs. 13 lakhs.

The Madras Fire Services Training School trained 323 persons including 3 District Officers and 8 Station Officers. The majority of the European National Fire Service Officers were repatriated to the United Kingdom. To cover the deficiency in officer personnel, Government ordered the training of suitable Indians for the Officer cadre. The Madras Fire Services took part in the Military Tattoo held at Madras in December 1945, and won distinction by staging a most realistic Air Raid item.

The scheme of peace-time Fire Service Organization in this Presidency includes the maintenance of one or more ambulances in each section for the use of the general public. They will attend to accident cases free of charge and in other cases where patients require removal to or from hospital, the ambulances are always at call on payment of a small fee. During the year, 935 ambulance calls were received and dealt with and a sum of Rs. 2,767 was realized on this account.

CHAPTER XVI—PROVINCIAL WAR EFFORT AND THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS EXCELLENCY AND THE HONOURABLE LADY HOPE

His Excellency the Governor of Madras

During the year 1945, His Excellency the Governor visited the districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Kistna, Bellary, Ramnad, Madura, North Arcot and Coimbatore. His Excellency visited the Third Madras Regiment Centre at Madukkarai and opened the All-India Regional Cattle Show at Tiruppur. His most prominent engagements in the districts were the opening of the War Services Exhibition at Madura, the Sir Arthur Hope Polytechnic at Coimbatore and the Sir Arthur Hope College of Technology at Coimbatore. His Excellency laid the foundation stones of the Ex-Services Centre at Vellore and of the Tungabhadra Project at Mallappuram (Bellary district). His Excellency received addresses of welcome from the Municipal Councils of Bezwada, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Tiruppur and the District Boards of Kistna and Ramnad. While in the Nilgiris, His Excellency was present at the prize day celebrations of the Breeks Memorial School, Ootacamund and the Founder's Day celebrations of the Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School, Lovedale. He presided over the annual general meetings of the Ootacamund Y.M.C.A. and St. George's Homes, Ketti and also opened the annual conference of the United Planters Association at Coonoor. His Excellency attended a number of engagements in Madras City organized to raise funds for the Governor's War Fund for amenities for troops and was also present at several social functions arranged for the benefit of men serving in the Armed Forces. His Excellency also attended the annual Police parade, the final ceremonial parade of the Madras A.R.P. and the "Stand Down" parade of the Madras Auxiliary Fire Service.

His Excellency and the Hon'ble Lady Hope actively participated in the Victory Day celebrations in Madras City in May when the defeat of Germany was announced and again in August when the Japanese surrendered and hostilities finally ceased. On May 13, accompanied by the Hon'ble Lady Hope, His Excellency took the salute at a march-past of a representative parade of military and civil units. In the afternoon of the same day, His Excellency and Lady Hope drove in State to a public meeting which was attended by one of the largest gatherings of the citizens of Madras ever known. The meeting was the concluding item in a festival programme of sports, races and other entertainments. After watching the finals of some of the events the Hon'ble Lady Hope presented cups and prizes to the winners. In connexion

with the August celebrations on the final cessation of hostilities, His Excellency attended Divine Services at St. Andrews Church, St. George's Cathedral and St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, August 19, which was observed as Thanksgiving Sunday. His Excellency took the salute at a march, past of a large parade of the Services on the morning of 20th August. Later in the day, His Excellency and Lady Hope visited poor feeding centres in the city, and in the evening drove in State to a public meeting. In the course of his speech, His Excellency applauded the part played by Madrassis in the various theatres of war and concluded with an appeal for unity and goodwill for an enduring peace throughout the world. On the same evening, His Excellency broadcast a message to the people of the Province.

In September 1945, His Excellency attended the farewell meeting of the National War Front Organization in the Banqueting Hall. On the 11th November 1945 His Excellency attended the Armistice Day Parade and the Inter-denominational Service at the War Memorial. His Excellency opened the conference of the non-Gazetted Government Officers' Association on December 16, the Industrial and Commercial Conference on December 27, and the Twenty-first All-India Educational Conference on December 28, at Madras. His Excellency held an informal investiture at the Banqueting Hall, Madras on December 12, at which he presented the insignia of titles and honours conferred in the previous Birthday Honours. On 19th December, His Excellency drove in State and opened a Military Tattoo on the Island Grounds, Madras. During the year His Excellency presided over meetings of the Executive Committee of the Provincial War Committee in January, February, March, April, June and September.

In response to an invitation from the Supreme Allied Commander, South-East Asia Command, His Excellency visited the forward areas in Bengal and the Arakan and saw Madrassi soldiers on active service. On the invitation of the respective Durbars, His Excellency paid informal visits to Mysore and Travancore States. While at Trivandrum, His Excellency laid the foundation stone of a children's hospital. His Excellency visited Bangalore on March 14, and had discussions with the Acting General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Army, the resident in Mysore, and with the Red Cross Commissioner for South-East Asia Command. Between August 1st and 3rd, His Excellency attended a conference of Governors convened by His Excellency the Viceroy at New Delhi. His Excellency the Governor of Bengal visited Madras between March 25th and 28th. His Excellency Monsieur Jeandin, Governor of the French Establishments in India visited Madras and stayed at Government House, Guindy, on 21st and 22nd December 1945.

As in the previous years, His Excellency undertook a number of public engagements in Madras City and toured the districts

obtaining first-hand information about district administration in general and the economic situation in particular. His Excellency's tours afforded him opportunities to come into close contact with the people, to stimulate the war effort in the Province, and also to ensure the equitable distribution of food supplies. In all his tours His Excellency drove publicly through the principal thoroughfares of the localities visited, granted interviews to representative non-officials and met the war workers. He inspected District Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Boards, training centres for war technicians, recruiting offices and village guards' organizations. His Excellency lent his patronage to performances and entertainments in aid of the war fund. Donations from loyal inhabitants were presented for the Governor's War Fund, mainly for the provision of amenities for troops. His Excellency received the following message from Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister for Aircraft Production :

"Once again I have to thank the people of Madras for a splendid gift of £10,000. The squadrons so generously provided for the R.A.F. by Madras have continued their fine service to our cause and will always be remembered with gratitude."

Propaganda

The year under report marked the cessation of the activities of the National War Front and the allied schemes and the introduction of the Field Publicity Organization, the activities of which were less emotional and more factual involving a careful study of the reconstruction and development projects and policies of the Government. With effect from 1st December 1945 the mobile publicity units in the districts and the Regional Publicity Organizations were also closed, but a small skeleton staff was retained to supervise the final closure. Up to the time of their disbandment the District Organizers arranged and supervised various campaigns on subjects like "Savings and National Thrift", "Security Education", "Down with Black Market", "Post-war Reconstruction and Development", etc. The village guards and other village security personnel proved useful to the officials of other departments like Police, Revenue, Excise, etc., on the one hand and to the public on the other. The Song Publicity Department was closed down from 30th November 1945. Prior to that a few songs in Kannada were published and six gramaphone records on topical themes were produced. The Bommalattam parties of the department continued to attract attention. In the West Godavari district the Show Boat continued its activity and served to popularize war news in the canal side villages. Students' Holiday Camps were held during the summer holidays in five districts with the object of developing a healthy outlook on the war situation particularly among the youth. After the closure of

the National War Front Organization the various "Victory Houses" in the mufassal were being reorganized to serve as Exhibition Centres. In Madras a big map of Germany and four other maps were displayed at Victory House throughout the year showing to the public the daily progress of the war. Sets of photographs illustrating the need for hygienic living conditions in villages were prepared and four sets of models illustrating "Post-war Farming," "Town-Planning," "Effects of soil erosion," etc., were displayed. The War Services Exhibition run by the Government of India was held at Madura with the active co-operation and help of the National War Front and proved to be a great success. During the Mahamaham festival at Kumbakonam, the National War Front organized an exhibition.

All the propaganda vans allotted to the districts exhibited cinema reels and magic lantern slides, and gave radio recitals, etc. The van allotted for the entertainment of troops in Madras City was very useful in giving shows to units stationed in Madras as well as in entertaining soldiers on leave. War reels produced by Information Films of India and Indian News Parade continued to be received in Tamil and Telugu. 16 m.m. films were received from the Director of Information, Bombay, at the rate of 6 per month and were distributed to various institutions. Two films, "Warriors of the South" and "Returning Soldier" were produced. The first was intended to stimulate recruitment while the other gives an idea of the post-war reconstruction schemes. A third film on "Milk Production" was under preparation.

The Press Section continued the publication of the weekly journal "Madras War Review" in six languages. On the cessation of hostilities, the name of the journal was changed to "Madras Review." Five special numbers were published and were very popular. A resettlement booklet entitled "Swords into Ploughshares" was published outlining the proposals of the Madras Government for the absorption of demobilized soldiers. Seven Post-war Reconstruction booklets on Finance, Agriculture, Communications, Industry, Education, Health and Livestock were prepared. The booklets on "Lessons in Bee-keeping" and "Madras Co-operative and the Demobilized Soldier" were printed. "Springboard" an art-souvenir of Madras in war-time was produced and was universally appreciated. The Government run newspaper "Viduthalai" ceased publication from 1st October 1945. The Reading Circles were abolished from 25th October 1945 except for those at the Taluk headquarters.

During the year there were two Victory Celebrations—"V.E. Day" and "V.J. Day". The attendance at the public meeting on "V.E. Day" eclipsed all previous records. Both the "V.E." and "V.J." Days were celebrated in the districts with meetings, parades and processions. Poor feeding on large scale

was carried out in many districts and special services and prayers were conducted in places of worship. At Madras over 11,000 poor people were fed and about 48,000 school children were given sweetmeats.

War Fund

With the cessation of hostilities, "His Excellency the Governor's War Fund" was re-named as "His Excellency the Governor's Amenities and Relief Fund". The total contributions to the Fund amounted to Rs. 3,56,96,081 on the 31st December 1945. The comparative figures of various districts as they stood on 24th December 1945 are shown below :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Coimbatore	24,19,015	8	7
Madras	23,95,494	4	4
East Godavari	22,36,535	11	0
Kistna	21,67,403	5	10
West Godavari	21,58,149	11	10
Guntur	18,87,625	12	11
Vizagapatam	18,60,994	12	7
Tinnevelly	18,20,408	2	9
Tanjore	17,91,892	14	8
Madura	15,78,157	0	0
Kurnool	15,22,300	12	5
Ramnad	14,23,181	6	2
Trichinopoly	12,35,088	10	6
Malabar	11,98,273	14	2
North Arcot	11,82,001	12	8
Salem	11,20,806	13	9
Nellore	10,71,233	11	10
Chingleput	10,10,469	3	5
South Arcot	9,21,814	9	10
South Kanara	9,04,911	9	8
Bellary	7,91,029	12	4
Cuddapah	7,70,611	6	5
Nilgiris	7,48,604	0	5
Anantapur	7,19,336	3	5
Chittoor	6,01,470	1	10
Travancore	1,18,687	9	2
Bangalore-Mysore-Coorg	36,908	15	6
	3,56,92,407	14	0

Joint War Charities Committee

The work of the Joint War Charities Depot increased due to the increasing demands by the military authorities for the furnishing and equipment of leave camps and hostels. The depot was able to provide furniture of better quality and at lower prices than was obtainable in the ordinary market. Very large quantities

of games equipment required for leave units were sent out from the depot at reasonable rates. Supplies obtained by the Army for troops on leave included drums and fifes, tooth sticks and elementary First Readers for the Africans. The Madrassi Units Gifts Scheme was expanded and more units got into touch with the depot, as the scheme increased in popularity. Vernacular books, games and musical instruments were supplied. The work of the depot increased on the Red Cross side also owing to the opening of a number of hospitals and the arrival of medical units. Various grants were made to canteens for the benefit of troops. As the work of the depot expanded it was found necessary to appoint paid secretarial and managing staff. The Government of Madras have met the overhead expenses of the depot from July 1940 and sanction was given this year for the addition of certain paid secretarial staff. The later part of the year was entirely devoted to the reception of released prisoners of war.

National Savings

The savings realized under the various items covered by the National Savings Campaign during the year 1945 are shown below :—

Item of savings.	Total for the calendar year 1945. RS. (IN LAKHS).
Victory Loans..	10,88·76
National Savings Certificates	2,22·49
Five-Year Interest Free Prize Bonds ..	11·06
Three-Year Interest Free Bonds	·66
Post Office Defence Savings Bank Deposits.	4·94
Collective subscriptions	·35
Other Loans—	
First Development Loan, 1970–75	88·81
Post Office Savings Bank Deposits (Net) ..	1,41·67
	15,58·74

The Savings Schemes were launched primarily as an anti-inflationary measure with a view to immobilize during the war as much as possible of the surplus purchasing power in the hands of the public. They also helped to provide funds to finance war expenditure and subsequently post-war development plans. National Savings Certificates were a popular investment due to the high rate of interest on them and its exemption from income-tax. The Savings Schemes were an effective anti-inflationary measure, helping to check the further increase in prices and in the amount of currency notes in circulation. They thus helped to prevent a further increase in the cost of living and undoubtedly made a considerable

contribution towards ensuring the economic stability of the country. The total savings amounted to over Rs. 3 per head of the total population in this Province for the year 1945.

Recruitment

Recruitment continued to be generally satisfactory during 1945. The total number recruited from this Province from the beginning of the war up to the end of June 1945 was 452,384. As a result of the cessation of hostilities all recruiting of combatants for the Indian Army was ordered to be suspended in August 1945, but from October 1945 recruitment to the three services was re-opened on a limited scale. Consequently the Government of India decided to close down all the Provincial Selection Boards. The district authorities were relieved to a considerable extent of recruiting work as this became primarily the duty of the military authorities. Recruitment of officers is now carried out by Officer Recruiting Teams, Deputy Directors of Recruiting and Recruiting Officers. The assistance rendered by Government officials in the matter of recruitment during the war years was greatly appreciated by the Recruiting Organization. Honours boards have been set up in almost all the District Victory Houses to show the decorations conferred on soldiers of the districts concerned.

The National Service Labour Tribunal, Madras, continued to recruit candidates for the Technical Training Scheme of the Government of India until September 1945. The total number of technicians trained up to the end of September was 24,610, of whom 21,609 were sent to the Defence Services. The Tribunal sent one batch of 15 candidates to the United Kingdom for training under the Bevin Scheme, making a total of 139 candidates from this Province from the beginning of this scheme.

Reception of Released Allied Prisoners of War and Internees

One of the more immediate results of the termination of hostilities with Japan so far as Madras was concerned was the return of Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees from the Far East. These began to arrive in September and a steady flow continued until towards the end of December by which time all but a few of those freed from Japanese camps had returned to India by way of Madras and Calcutta, though by far the greater number came through Madras. Prisoners of War were handled by the local military authorities and those civilians who were so ill as to require immediate hospital treatment were also taken over by the military and removed by ambulance train to Jallahalli, near Bangalore. To deal with fit civilians, the Government arranged with the Women's Voluntary Service, Madras, to organize for them

accommodation in private houses and in the clubs for the Europeans, while the Protector of Emigrants arranged accommodation for Indian civilians at "Lakeside" camp in Poonamallee High Road, Madras. The Additional Collector, Madras was made responsible for arranging for train reservations and tickets for onward travel of the repatriates to Bombay *en route* for the United Kingdom or to their homes in other parts of India.

In all, up to 21st December, some 45 ships arrived in Madras bringing approximately 27,000 Released Allied Prisoners of War Internees. Of these, more than 1,200 were civilian internees and a further 1,500 were Indian evacuees, mostly Policemen and their families from Hong Kong and Shanghai, who, though not actually interned, had suffered all the hardships of the Japanese occupation. A rousing reception was given to each ship on arrival. The Honourable Lady Hope and large numbers of officials and non-officials were on the quayside to welcome the repatriates as they disembarked. The Red Cross organized an enquiry bureau to help repatriates and their families to regain touch as quickly as possible. The Women's Voluntary Service Canteen and the Indian Hospitality Committee were supplied with Red Cross funds to provide tea and light refreshments for all prisoners and internees as they came ashore. In the case of hospital ships, comforts were distributed by the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance workers at Rayapuram station, where the patients were put aboard the ambulance trains. For civilians, many of whom arrived with little but the clothes in which they stood, the Women's Voluntary Service and the War Supply Depot provided clothes, toilet necessities and other comforts for men, women and children. The Women's Voluntary Service also disbursed advances of money to meet immediate needs from funds placed at their disposal by the Government of India. Transport for civilians was provided by the Civil Defence Services, Mobile First Aid Units being converted into buses for the purpose.

CHAPTER XVII—MISCELLANEOUS

Schoo for Training Clerks and Village Officers

The Government sanctioned a scheme to train clerks with the object of teaching those selected for employment as clerks in Government offices some of the rudiments of office procedure before they actually join duty. Under this scheme, training is given both to candidates selected by the Madras Public Service Commission and to those appointed by transfer from any other subordinate service. An exception was made in the case of women clerks and they were exempted from training for the present. Four schools have been started at Ellore, Cuddalore, Salem and Madura. The syllabus includes office routine and procedure, special codes and manuals and precis-writing.

Government also sanctioned a scheme for the training of village headmen and presidents of panchayat boards in measures of rural welfare and improvement. The syllabus includes subjects relating to Public Health and Sanitation, Education, Rural Improvements, Agriculture and Co-operation. Training schools have been sanctioned for each district except Madras and the Nilgiris. Each batch of students will number about 80 and they will receive training for one month. It was proposed to hold demonstrations in selected villages where the improvements advocated by various departments had been carried out. The scheme was suspended during the kist months of 1945 to enable the village officers to attend to collection work and after that 21 schools were opened in the Province.

Motor Transport

The Government created a Transport Administration with full-time Transport Officers and a separate staff. The period was an eventful one in the development of road transport. Government announced their intention of encouraging the formation of larger passenger transport companies, which will be able to give more reliable and efficient service to the public than the large number of small operators who have been running the majority of the passenger transport services up to now. During the year some progress was made in the elimination of small concerns. The Government of India announced their decision that the best method of co-ordination of road-rail transport was by fusion of their financial interests. The Government of Madras accepted this proposal subject to the condition that in any such joint company the Provincial Government should normally have a financial share not less than that of the railways and that the two together should ordinarily have more than 50 per cent of the shares.

Attempts were made in the southern parts of the Province to form such joint companies in which the Provincial Government, the railways and the existing operators are each to have shares. An attempt was also made to regulate goods transport on the principle that it is desirable to encourage long distance traffic to go by rail and short distance traffic by road.

The supply of controlled chassis, spare parts and batteries and tyres improved steadily and all restrictions on the sale of batteries were removed in November 1945. One thousand eight hundred and nineteen three-ton vehicles were available for allotment, of which 1,764 were allotted, including 715 for bus services and the rest for general transport purposes. The supply of these chassis was stopped in September 1945 owing to the cessation of lend-lease and other mutual aid agreements. Spare parts for Chevrolet vehicles were imported by Messrs. General Motors (India) in large quantities, but there continued to be difficulty in obtaining spare parts for Fords and other makes of vehicles.

The conclusion of hostilities in Europe and the surrender of Japan made it possible to relax the Motor Spirit Rationing Scheme slightly. The basic ration for cars and motor cycles was doubled from the beginning of August. Generally speaking a liberal supply of petrol was allowed to private car owners whenever their needs were found to be genuine and movements of cars over long distances by road were permitted more freely. The operation of transport vehicles was also made easier. Old models fitted with producer gas plants were allowed to revert to petrol, and the orders requiring new vehicles and those operating on short distance routes to fit producer gas plants were no longer rigidly enforced. The total consumption of petrol for the year was about 72·4 lakhs of gallons as against 56·5 in 1944. This still shows a saving of about 50 per cent over the pre-rationing figure of 147·2 lakhs.

The rationing of tyres and tubes for private cars and motor cycles was stringent at the commencement of the year, but the position gradually improved as the quarterly allotments were increased and towards the close of the year it was found possible to provide tyres for many car owners to whom tyres and tubes could not be allotted during the previous three years. A total of about 8,000 tyres and tubes were allotted for private cars and motor cycles as against about 5,000 in 1944. Control over used, retreaded and factory seconds tyres was lifted in September. Tyres and tubes for transport vehicles were more freely available. With the substantial increase in the allotment for each quarter it was possible to remove restrictions on the supply of tyres to passenger service vehicles operating on routes of minor importance and to meet the demands of all lorry owners. The total allotment for the year was about 41,400 tyres as against about 26,000 in 1944. The allotment

for the quarter ending 30th September 1945 exceeded the actual needs of the Province and the rationing of giant tyres was withdrawn in December 1945.

In Madras City the bus position has improved and there were 162 buses and 135 taxis plying at the end of November as compared with 105 and 96 respectively at the same time last year. The number of trams running in the City continued to show a gradual improvement towards the end of the year. Controlled vehicle chassis continued to be released and many were registered as lorries. Nineteen thousand six hundred and sixty-two licences were issued up to November as compared with 18,453 last year.

The total number of accidents increased from 1,501 to 2,092 and military vehicles were involved in about 50 per cent of the accidents as compared with about 38 per cent last year. Fatal cases increased by more than 50 per cent, there being 59 cases as compared with 38 last year and War Department Vehicles were involved in 35 of these cases as compared with 19 last year. The increase in accidents was due to the very heavy increase in War Department traffic and to the fact that on the whole the driving of War Department vehicles was of a very low standard. A Military Claims Commission, started at the beginning of the year, improved the settlement of compensation cases. The order restricting lights on motor vehicles was lifted in October, but this has not so far had any marked effect on the number of accidents during the hours of darkness. A.R.P. shelters and storm-water drainage shutters, which seriously obstructed the pavements were removed towards the end of the year.

The Motor Vehicles (Kerosene Prohibition) Order, the Civil Motor Transport Vehicles Control Order, the Motor Vehicle Spare Parts Control Order and the Disposal of Used Government Motor Vehicles Control Order continued to be in force. The Civil Motor Cars Control Order and the Commercially Imported Transport Motor Vehicles Control Order were promulgated during the year. The Used Motor Vehicles Control Order, 1944, was subsequently repealed on 21st December 1945.

"Grow More Food" Campaign

The attention of the entire agricultural staff was concentrated on the "Grow More Food" Campaign. Among other additional staff the Government sanctioned the appointment of a Joint and an Additional Deputy Director of Agriculture at Headquarters. Food shortage in Madras started with the cessation of imports of rice from Burma in 1942 and the food production drive was initiated, so that comparisons can only be made over a period of three years. The area under paddy in 1944–45 was higher than the triennial average ending 1941–42 by 7·1 per cent, while the area under millets was lower by 5·5 per cent. The decrease in acreage under

millets was partly due to the preference given to groundnut on account of the high prices and partly due to lack of rain during the sowing season. Taking all foodgrains together, the increase in the acreage works out to nearly 0.8 per cent in 1942–43, 3·6 per cent in 1943–44 and 0·1 per cent in 1944–45. Since the beginning of the 'Grow More Food' Campaign, an extent of 185,207 acres was assigned, of which 167,073 acres were cultivated with food crops. Production of rice in this Province increased by 197,000 tons as compared with the triennial average, while the production of millets decreased by 305,000 tons partly due to seasonal conditions.

Schemes for the multiplication of improved paddy seeds were being worked in 13 districts and of millets in six districts. With a view to increase the area under red, black and green grams the Government sanctioned at a cost of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs the free distribution of these seeds to ryots, who were willing to grow them on their lands for the first time. In some of the lands newly reclaimed under the Cauvery-Mettur Project area, the cultivation of a green manure crop was made compulsory and distribution of green manure seeds costing over Rs. 5 lakhs was sanctioned. To reclaim as much waste land as possible, the tractors maintained by the Agricultural Department were made available to the ryots on reasonable terms.

The permanent advance at the disposal of the Director of Agriculture to finance transactions connected with the departmental purchase of manures, seeds, iron and steel for agricultural purposes was increased from Rs. 90 lakhs to Rs. 170 lakhs. The sale of manures and seeds was subsidized by the Government by waiving the entire establishment charges and, in addition, the overhead charges up to 10 per cent of the turnover in the case of manures and 12½ per cent in the case of seeds. An expenditure of Rs. 50·18 lakhs on manures and of Rs. 2·5 lakhs on seeds was sanctioned towards this subsidy. The Government of India allotted 20,000 tons of ammonium sulphate during 1944–45 for distribution to paddy growers at 75 per cent of the cost price. For the year commencing from 1st July 1945, the Government of India allotted 50,000 tons of ammonium sulphate and 1,500 tons of ammonium phosphate. A portion of this quota is given to the manure firms and the balance is distributed to ryots through the agricultural depots.

Poor and deserving ryots were given free manure up to Rs. 2,000 in value and seeds up to Rs. 100 per district. In the case of Malabar district, an additional expenditure of Rs. 8,000 was sanctioned for free distribution of manure. In order to give relief to the areas affected by the cyclone in October, the Government sanctioned free distribution of manure and seeds costing Rs. 2,12,500 to poor and deserving ryots owning five acres of land

or less and free distribution of paddy straw costing Rs. 2,000. Groundnut cake for use as manure was also sold at a reduced price involving a maximum expenditure of Rs. 2 lakhs.

A further batch of 40 Sanitary Inspectors was selected for training in the " Bangalore process " of making compost. Propaganda for the manufacture of compost in rural areas from waste vegetable matter was carried on and a sum of Rs. 24,000 was granted as subsidies for the excavation of compost pits.

The special scheme to bring under irrigation an area of 40,000 acres under the undeveloped ayacut of the Cauvery-Mettur Project having proved a complete success last year, a second target of 15,000 acres was fixed for this year. Twenty-five field channels were excavated, 187 temporary pipes were granted and nine tanks drained and the tank-bed lands made fit for cultivation. An area of 13,183 acres was thus brought under cultivation. Another scheme for the extension of irrigation beyond Narasinga Cauvery to an ayacut of 15,000 acres was investigated and sanction accorded for execution of the first instalment of the scheme to bring under irrigation an extent of 2,500 acres. During the year six new schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 5·39 lakhs and designed to irrigate approximately 4,700 acres were sanctioned. Twenty-six schemes were completed and brought to beneficial use. Since the inauguration of the " Grow More Food " Campaign 77 schemes were sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 96 lakhs for the irrigation of 108,200 acres, of which 61 schemes were completed by the end of 1945.

Resettlement of Ex-service Men

The problem of resettlement of ex-service men in Madras was mainly a matter of planning till the surrender of Japan in August 1945, but after that it assumed immediate importance and urgency. It is expected that about 187,000 men will be demobilized by the middle of 1946 and the Government of Madras have paid considerable attention to the problem of absorbing this large number in various walks of life. This figure for demobilization is second only to that for the Punjab and is very much higher than the majority of other Provinces. According to a moderate estimate, about 30 per cent of the persons demobilized will return to the occupations which they were following before they joined the Services, leaving about 131,000 men for whom employment has to be found.

The Employment Exchange, which was started in 1944, was expanded and converted into a Regional Employment Exchange. Four Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges were opened at Coimbatore, Bezwada, Vizagapatam and Calicut and arrangements are being made to open five more. The Chairman of the National Service Labour Tribunal was also the Regional Director of Resettlement and Employment. Further, the large network of Military

Recruiting offices were converted into Recruitment and Employment offices. They will maintain a complete record of every man's age, service, previous employment and other particulars by means of Special Service Cards provided by the Army Release Centres. In addition to this agency there is in Madras a province-wide chain of District Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Boards with the Collector of the district as Chairman. These Boards have been expanded and each Collector has been given a Personal Assistant specially for resettlement work.

A large number of posts were left vacant in Provincial services, in the Railways and other departments of the Central Government, such as Income-tax, Customs, etc. About 12,000 persons are expected to be absorbed by this method including 6,000 vacancies reserved by the Railway Administration. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies proposed to train a large number of men at the various Co-operative Institutes and then find employment for them in Co-operative Institutions as Secretaries, Managers, Supervisors, etc. The planters of South India require a large number of labouring family-units for work on tea and coffee estates and it is hoped that this will absorb a considerable number of ex-service men and their families. The United Planters' Association have informed Government that they require some 80,000 persons including women and children and therefore arrangements were made for Estate Recruiting staff to contact the various resettlement agencies.

It is also proposed to establish Technical Institutes to give instruction in mechanical, radio and sound engineering, textile technology and other industrial occupations. The Industrial Education Scheme provides for the opening of 15 new industrial schools and improvement of the existing schools. Under another scheme agricultural fieldmen and maistries will be trained in batches of 20 to 25 students at each of the six agricultural stations.

The various reconstruction projects will involve new irrigation plans, extensive road programme and innumerable building works. It is proposed to absorb a number of ex-service men by the formation of contract labour co-operative societies to which contracts can be given for the execution of various schemes. In the first instance contract labour societies will be formed to undertake some irrigation works and six building works in different parts of the province. Wages will be paid at the current market rate but the members will get in addition to their wages their share of the profits of the society which would have ordinarily gone to the contractor. According to the condition of each society the Government were prepared to assist by providing initial capital equipment, loans, and an organization to supervise their efficient working. Another proposal is to establish a number of district co-operative workshops and various schemes have been investigated during the year. One workshop at Kumbakonam for metal works was approved and is being

put into execution. These co-operative workshops manned entirely by ex-service men will manufacture and sell for the society's profit, various articles such as furniture, hardware, machine tools, leather goods, etc. They will be given technical advice and assistance by the officers of the Industries and Co-operative Departments.

For those ex-service men who wish to settle on the land, colonies organized on co-operative principles are being established. During the last two years a thorough search has been made in every district for suitable sites and 44 have been selected in 20 districts. In 15 colonization schemes preliminary work has been started and considerable sums of money have been spent in clearing scrub jungle, levelling the sites and providing wells and irrigation facilities. Attention was also paid to sanitation and anti-malarial measures. The land thus made cultivable and habitable at Government expense will be handed over to a co-operative society, of which the ex-service men will become members on payment of Rs. 50 for each share. The Co-operative Inspector in charge will allot plots of land to each member who will then have the legal status of a permanent occupancy ryot. A member will have no right to sub-let, mortgage or otherwise encumber his holding, which will also be impartible and will, on his death, pass undivided to his nominee or his senior male heir.

It is proposed to absorb the first batch of men released as far as possible in the following occupations :—

		Employment.	Number.
59	per cent	Co-operative labour contract societies	77,000
15	do.	Private concerns	20,000
9	do.	Employment in Government service	12,000
6	do.	Co-operative land colonies	8,000
6	do.	Plantation labour	8,000
3	do.	Training courses for Government service ..	4,000
2	do.	Co-operative workshops	3,000
			132,000

N.B.—The figures given in this statement are only approximate.

The areas from which these men come have been classified and the various schemes have been arranged according to the number of men expected to return to each district. Since the formation of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee in August 1944 the Madras Government have given first priority to resettlement questions with the result that the great majority of the 156 proposed schemes for post-war development also have as their background the need to provide work for ex-service men. The proof of the earnest desire on the part of Government to give utmost consideration to the welfare of these men lies in the fact that over Rs. 11 crores are intended to be spent on schemes which will in greater or lesser measure benefit the ex-service men.

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